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A

S K E T C H O F FRENCH POLITICKS: Deduced from History and Modern Facts.

Recommended to the serious Perusal of such
as have the Religion, Trade, and Prospe-
rity of this NATION, and the Liberty of
EUROPE, sincerely at Heart.

By a TRUE BRITON.

Nothing can be more evident, than if the French King continues Master of the Spanish Monarchy, the Balance of Power in Europe is utterly destroyed, and he will be able in a short Time to engross the Trade and Wealth of the World.

I may add, we have learnt by our own Experience, that no Peace with France will last longer than the first Opportunity of their dividing the Allies, and of Attacking some of them with Advantage.

The best Proof we can all give of our Zeal for the Church, will be to join heartily in prosecuting the War against an Enemy, who is certainly engaged to extirpate our Religion, as well as reduce the Kingdom to Slavery.

Queen ANNE's Speech, 27 Oct. 1705.

L O N D O N .

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HISTORICAL

EDUCATION IN THE

COLONIAL PERIOD

IN THE UNITED STATES

BY JAMES M. COOPER

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THE AUTHOR'S EDITION.



A
S K E T C H
O F
FRENCH POLITICKS.

S the vast and unbounded Views of the House of BOURBON, in Pursuit of *universal* Monarchy, are again display'd, and become most notoriously Evident and Conspicuous, to all EUROPE; I am persuaded, that *only* those who are Friends or *Parasites*, to that ambitious, sanguinary Race of Mortals, will think the Design of this small Tract to require an Apology: Since our own Danger, involv'd with that of EUROPE, is a sufficient Justification of the Undertaking.

The Reflection, that FRANCE and SPAIN have most apparently espoused the Principles of the common Enemy of Christendom, and make his Maxims the Rule of their Conduct to obtain Universal Empire, must afford a melancholly Prospect to all Denominations of Christians; in regard it may be difficult to determine under which of the two, they would be most humanly treated, should either become absolute Conquerors. For tho' the former profeis the better Faith,

B

yet

yet the latter are more constant to their Engagements ; the TURK thinking it an essential Part of Religion, to keep his Word and Promises. Whereas in the Sequel of this Discourse, I will fully demonstrate, that neither Promises, Alliances, Oaths, or the most solemn Engagements, have been of any Efficacy or Weight, with FRANCE, whenever their Ambition and Policy, judged it necessary to break and violate them. In such Things they as much exceed the Grand SEIGNIOR, as they rival him in their Designs, of grasping at unbounded Dominion, and to become as absolute Governors of the *West*, as *He* is of the *East*.

This, most certainly, was the Case of CHARLES the GREAT ; and considering the present Situation of FRANCE, her now Ministers, may think the Attempt equally practicable under LEWIS the 15th ; and it must be confessed, that the Motives and Temptations to excite them thereto, are many and prevalent.

For, few want to be informed, how extended the FRENCH Dominions are ; how vastly populous, their Commonalty ; how exceedingly numerous, their Nobility ; who are also by *Nature*, no less valiant and courageous, than by *Art*, expert and skilful in War, and all martial Exercises. The advantageous Situation of their Country to annoy and with Ease invade their adjoining Neighbours, the happy Fertility of their Soil, the prodigious Encrease of their Manufactures and native Products, to supply the vast Demands of other Countries, and the almost immense Revenues of their Kings, who are absolute in Will and Power, are all so many most undoubted Advantages and powerful Incitements, to countenance and encourage such Attempts ; and which, taken in a joint View,

View, seem as it were unitedly to conspire, in spurring on their natural Inclinations, to oppress and conquer States and Kingdoms, to extend their Dominions, and facilitate the Accomplishment of their long concerted Schemes, to obtain that Universal Monarchy, they have with great Zeal, much Power, and a most singular Ambition, for many Ages aspired after ; and which nothing next to the Interposition of Divine Providence could have hitherto prevented, but their frequent intestine Commotions and domestic Factions, or the untimely End of such of their Princes, as were chiefly intent on reducing the Powers of EUROPE, to the most abject State of Dependency, and servile Subjection to that of FRANCE.

Whoever is conversant in the History of that Kingdom, and remembers the various Insurrections and Rebellions, that owed their Origin and Birth to private Quarrels and Dissentions, either Civil or Religious ; and which, tho' it many Times occasioned a Death unnatural to their Princes, yet could not put an End to their national Calamities ; must be surprized to think, how that People could surmount such insuperable Difficulties, and at the same Time support their own Power and Dignity so well, as to be in a Condition, not only to appease Tumuls at Home, but also to contend, and often bid fair for Universal Dominion Abroad. However, this affords us a most convincing Instance, that implacable Thirst after Power absolute, is their darling Principle ; since true it is, that their Policy and Courage, spurred on by the Passion of Avarice and Ambition, have in all Ages been such, that no sooner were their domestic Commotions quieted and appeased, than they immediately discover'd the same restless Spirit and insatiable Lust, for

Universal Empire. And how they have attempted, to augment and enlarge their own Dominions, most Kingdoms and States in EUROPE, have wofully experienc'd, to the great Loss and Diminution of their own.

Thus to gratify a most vain and extravagant Ambition, has FRANCE at all Times embraced, every the least favourable Opportunity, to disturb and interrupt the Peace and Quietness of Mankind. Nor could the most enlarged Conquests, ever satiate, or set Bounds to its Projects of acquiring an unlimitted, unextended Power in the Universe.

And as the same Inclination now manifestly displays itself, I thought it might conduce to many good Purposes, to epitomize and state in one View, from History and Matter of Fact, the most material Instances of the Ambition, Insincerity, and Treachery of FRANCE; as well for the Benefit of such as are not able to purchase, or have not Leisure to peruse large Volumes, as demonstrably to evince, that our Apprehensions of Danger from the House of BOURBON ought never to subside or abate, till their Power is reduced to such Limits, as may sufficiently restrain their natural Inclinations, to molest the Opposers of their impetuous Will.

It will be needless to go farther back than to their CHARLES VIII. a Prince, who having by force of Arms, first united BRITANY to FRANCE, determined also to conquer ITALY, for which Purpose he made an Expedition against NAPLES, and after a War of about forty Years, he became Conqueror. The great PUFFENDORF, a most celebrated Historian, observes, " That the Conquest of so fair a Kingdom, struck Terror into the TURKISH Emperor himself, and was looked upon

" upon as a Thing of such Consequence, by the
 " rest of the Princes of EUROPE, that the EM-
 " PEROR, the POPE, the King of ARRAGON, VE-
 " NICE, and MILAN, entred into a Confederacy
 " to drive the FRENCH out of ITALY." So dread-
 ful was it thought, to have ITALY in the Hands
 and Power of FRANCE.

The Ambition of the FRENCH KING *Francis I.* was so Exalted as to contend for the IMPERIAL Crown, with the AUSTRIAN Family, when in their greatest Grandeur under CHARLES V. and he would most certainly have succeeded therein, having secured several of the Electors in his Interest, had not the *German* Princes, from a Fear the FRENCH would humble them too much, preferred CHARLES to him.

And it must be observ'd of FRANCIS, that in order to accomplish his Designs of Universal Monarchy, he entered into a Treaty with the TURKS against the Emperor of GERMANY, and other Christian Powers, who gave a great Diver-
 sion in HUNGARY, and took several Places. Indeed, he was the first FRENCH King, who after a most Christian Manner craved the Assistance of the TURKS, to destroy Christians, in which he has been since imitated by too many of his Successors.

His great Perfidy and notorious Breach of Faith, appear in the Treaty made between him and CHARLES V. Emperor of GERMANY. My Lord HERBERT in his History of HENRY VIII. gives us this Account of it. " The Treaty be-
 " twixt them being concluded, the Archbishop
 " of AMBRUN, for the last Seal and Solemniza-
 " tion thereof, said Mass. This being done,
 " FRANCIS came to the Altar, and putting his
 " Right Hand upon the Book of the Evangelists,
 " which

" which the said Archbishop held, did swear by
 " the Sacrament, and the holy Evangelists, not
 " to break it.—Some Days after the Treaty,
 " CHARLES the Emperor asking him, If he was
 " still willing to perform the Articles, FRANCIS
 " answered, Yes, and when you find I do not
 " keep my Word with you, I wish and consent,
 " that you hold me for a Knave and Villain." But neither the Solemnity with which this Treaty was made, nor his subsequent Declaration to observe it, could oblige him to a Performance; for in the *May* following, he positively refus'd to confirm the Treaty; and on the 22d of the same Month, the Pope most piously absolved him therefrom.

In the Year 1556. HENRY II. his Son, concluded a Truce at VAUGELLES near CAMBRAI, with the same Emperor, which was scarce confirmed by Oath, when the FRENCH broke it, at the Instigation of Pope PAUL IV. It ought also to be observ'd of this HENRY, that he had projected large Schemes for extending his Dominions, and would most certainly have succeeded therein, had not a sudden unfortunate Death prevented him, being killed in a Turnament by the Splinter of a Lance run into his Eye.

HENRY IV. of FRANCE, is the next Prince, whose Reign affords several Instances in support of my Argument: For no sooner had he established his Title to the Crown, by the Success of his Arms, and restored the Kingdom's Peace, then interrupted by civil Broils, but he immediately turned his Thoughts to Universal Empire. To effect which, he had contrived to new model EUROPE by reducing the Kingdoms and Commonwealths then existing, to a certain Number, and under the Restrictions and Limitations of his

own capricious Will. A most excellent Scheme to aggrandize the Power of FRANCE! With this View he furnish'd his Arsenals with prodigious Quantities of Arms, Ammunition, and Stores of War. In his Treasury he amass'd most immense Sums of Money; had nominated his best and most experienced Generals and Officers; and had concerted Measures with the Northern Crowns, HOLLAND, the Princes of GERMANY; the Elector of BAVARIA, the Duke of SAVOY, the SWISS, and POPE; but before the same could be put in Execution, he was assassinated by RAVILLAC, whereby his most amazing Projects were render'd abortive.

The Perfidy and Treachery of this King were no less remarkable and notorious, than his ambitious Pursuits after Universal Monarchy.

In the Year 1596. a mutual League offensive and defensive, was signed by Queen ELIZABETH and him against SPAIN, and sworn to on both Sides: One Article whereof was, "That neither of them should treat of any separate Peace, but always act in Conjunction;" and yet within the Space of two Years, the FRENCH King made a Peace privately with * SPAIN.

The Speech of BARNEVELT the DUTCH Ambassador to the Council of FRANCE on this Occasion, is so very singular, and pertinent to the Point in Hand, that I beg leave to transcribe part of it. After his Appeal to the FRENCH King's Conscience, whether he could with Honour discard their Interest, when he had espoused it with so many repeated Oaths, and that they had given no manner of Provocation to break with them? he concludes in these Words,

* *Complete Hist. of England, Vol. II. 594.*

" That

“ That some Kings indeed there had been, who
 “ had so high an Esteem for Grandeur and Pre-
 “ rogative, as to bear none at all to the most
 “ solemn Leagues and Obligations ; but that the
 “ Consequence of such Proceedings had gene-
 “ rally been fatal ; for, where Princes have part-
 “ ed with their Faith and Honour, ‘tis next to
 “ impossible they should support themselves by
 “ meer * Power.”

Queen ELIZABETH no less pathetically expostulated with that King at his Breach of Faith. In one Letter to him she thus expresses herself : “ If there was such a Sin as that against the *Holy Ghost*, it must needs be Ingratitude : That if he obtained from SPAIN any honourable Conditions of Peace, he might thank ENGLAND for them : That he should not forsake an old Friend, for fear the new one should not match him : That solemn Oaths and mutual Compacts, were never design'd for Snares, unless by the worst of † Men.” But the Representation of the one, nor the Expostulation of the other, could not prevent his breaking the Treaty with ENGLAND and HOLLAND ; and which so incensed the ENGLISH, that they afterwards used the FRENCH King's Name, as a Proverb to reproach Ingratitude. Queen ELIZABETH having before in a most extraordinary Manner several Times assisted him, being one whom she held in the greatest Esteem.

To him succeeded LEWIS XIII. his Son, who, by Reason of a Civil War at Home, could not at first prosecute the Designs of his Predecessors, by employing the great Armory and Wealth left him, in a Foreign Expedition, yet it must be ob-

* *Complete Hist. of England, Vol. II. 604.*

† *Ibid. 605. served,*

serv'd, that he had it in View; for as soon as Cardinal RICHLIEU, and the rest of his Ministers, had exterminated their domestic Factions, FRANCE being sought to by several Princes, for Protection and Assistance against the AUSTRIAN Family, at that Time grown formidable, the King readily embrac'd the Opportunity, not doubting, but that under a Pretence of assisting weak Princes, he might in the End, share a Part of their Principalities, and thereby encrease his own Power. Hereupon, he zealously engaged in that Enterprize, and in a short Time, conquer'd many Provinces, and considerable Towns, in SPAIN, ITALY, GERMANY, and the Low-COUNTRIES, which at last made those very Princes, who had implor'd his Assistance, to become as jealous of his rising Power, as they had been before of the AUSTRIAN House; and to prevent further Danger from him, they contentedly submitted to their Losses, rather than longer trust a FRENCH Alliance, and which occasioned the Treaty at MUNSTER.

I now come to the Reign of LEWIS XIV. and it may be truly said, that this King's Reign was one continued Scene of Perfidiousness, Treachery, and Ambition; affording such innumerable Instances, of his mighty and successful Attempts, to invade and usurp over'the Power of Sovereign Princes, to extirpate the Rights and Liberties of Mankind, and become the sole Arbitr^r, Director, and Universal Monarch of EUROPE, that it would require a large Volume, to give a perfect Relation. I will content my self with observing only such Particulars as were the most flagrant and notorious.

What first deserves Notice, is the Affair of *Dunkirk Anno 1658.* during his Minority, when under the Direction of Cardinal MAZARIN. In the Treaty between OLIVER CROMWEL and the FRENCH, there was an Article, that if *Dunkirk*, then possessed by SPAIN, should be taken, the ENGLISH were to have it immediately delivered to them, and LOCKART the Protector's Ambassador, had Orders to take Possession thereof.

While the FRENCH Army and ENGLISH Troops were marching to invest the Town, CROMWEL sent one Morning for the FRENCH Ambassador to *Whitehall*, and publickly upbraided him for his Master's intended Breach of Promise, in giving secret Orders to the FRENCH General, to keep the Town of *Dunkirk*, incase it was taken, contrary to the Treaty between them.

The Ambassador protested he knew nothing of the Matter, as indeed he did not ; and begg'd leave to assure him, that no such Thing was intended. Upon which CROMWEL pulled a Paper out of his Pocket, *Here, says he, is a Copy of the Cardinal's Order ; and I desire you to dispatch immediately an Express, to let him know, that I am not to be imposed on ; and if he deliver not up the Keys of the Town of Dunkirk to LOCKART, within an Hour after it shall be taken, tell him I will come in Person, and demand them at the Gates of Paris.* The Message had its due Effect, and not only *Dunkirk* was deliver'd up to the ENGLISH, but to palliate the Matter, the Duke and Marshal CREQUY was dispatched to ENGLAND Ambassador Extraordinary, attended with a numerous and splendid Train of Persons of Quality, to compliment CROMWEL, among whom was a Prince of the Blood, and the Cardinal's Nephew, who brought a Letter from his Uncle to the

Protector, full of the highest Expressions of Respect, and assuring him of the profoundest Veneration for his Person. But however sincere the Cardinal might be, in his Declaration of Esteem for the Protector, yet certain it was, he fear'd him so much, as to change Countenance at the Mention of his Name ; and it became a Proverb in FRANCE, *That he was more afraid of OLIVER than of the Devil.*

This Affair of Dunkirk affords us no less an Instance of the Treachery and Insincerity of FRANCE, at that Time, than of the amazing secret Intelligence which CROMWEL had, of the Intrigues of other Courts, and of his Power and Influence Abroad. Indeed, it must be acknowledged, that few Princes ever exerted their Prerogative so much as he did, especially in his Treaties with crown'd Heads. Two remarkable Instances whereof, the fam'd Historian PUFENDORF gives us, in his Life of the Elector of BRANDENBURG ; the one was, that in CROMWEL's Treaty with FRANCE against SPAIN, he would not allow the FRENCH King to call himself King of FRANCE, but only of the FRENCH : Whereas he took to himself, not only the Title of Protector of ENGLAND, but likewise of FRANCE. The other is yet more surprizing, and almost incredible, was it not for the Authority of the same great Historian, viz. That in the Instrument of the said Treaty, the Protector's Name was put before the FRENCH King's. This small Digression, on account of the Singularity of it, will, I hope, be excused.

The next Instance I shall produce of their Insincerity, or rather Treachery, relates to the PYRENEAN Treaty, made between FRANCE and SPAIN, Anno 1659.

It must be observ'd, that the Motives which induced the SPANIARDS to enter into this Treaty with FRANCE, were two: First, That the FRENCH should not afford the least Assistance to PORTUGAL, who was then labouring to throw off the SPANISH Yoke: Secondly, That the Infanta of SPAIN, upon her then intended Marriage with LEWIS XIV. (which Match was proposed as the Cement of that Treaty) should make a Renunciation, confirm'd and ratified by the King of FRANCE, of all Pretences, Titles, or Claims whatsoever, to the SPANISH Monarchy, and every Part of the Dominions thereof.

As to the abandoning of PORTUGAL, the FRENCH King obliged himself to it in these Words: " His said Majesty of FRANCE, will intermeddle no farther in the said Business; and doth promise and oblige himself, upon his Honour, and upon the *Faith* and *Word* of a King, both for himself and his Successors, not to give to any Person or Persons whatsoever, either at present or in the future, any Help or Assistance, neither public nor secret, directly nor indirectly, of Men, Arms, Ammunition, Victualling, Vessels, nor Money, under any Pretence, nor any other Thing whatsoever, by Land or by Sea, nor in any other Manner: As likewise not to suffer any Levies to be made in any Part of his Kingdoms and Dominions; nor to grant a Passage, to any that might come from other Countries, to the Relief of the said Kingdom of PORTUGAL."

And was it possible for the Wit of Man, to have a Treaty couch'd in Terms more determinate, cautious, and express, whereby to prevent FRANCE from assisting PORTUGAL, the main Point the SPANIARDS aimed at by that Alliance, and

and intended Marriage? And yet a Treaty penn'd in Words the most judicious and clear, the most solemn and sacred, how was it afterwards performed and executed? Why! before it was even sign'd, the most eminent, and *truly pious* Cardinal MAZARIN, sent the Marquis of CHENES, privately into PORTUGAL, to assure the PORTUGESE, that tho' he could not avoid having such Words in the Treaty, as obliged FRANCE not to assist them, yet they might be fully satisfied, that his Master would aeffectually aid and succour them, as before it was made; which indeed prov'd a certain Truth; for the Bonfires that had been kindled in SPAIN, for Joy of the Peace, were not quite extinguished, when the FRENCH display'd their Treachery in a most notorious Breach of the Treaty, by sending considerable Forces, Arms, and Ammunition into PORTUGAL. Nay, as if that was not sufficient, to express their Perfidy, they gave a further Instance of it; for when the SPANISH Ambassador complain'd of the Infraction of the Treaty so evidently made, the FRENCH Ministers deluded him by a specious Pretence of issuing public Orders to the Governors of their Ports, that no Soldiers, or Arms, should be permitted to embark for PORTUGAL; and yet at the same Time, most perfidiously sent private Instructions to such Governors, to connive at their Passage. The Truth of these Things appear'd, both from undoubted Facts, and certain Letters, that passed between the FRENCH Minister Monsieur DE LYON, and the Archbishop of AMBRUN, to Monsieur SCHOMBERG, intercepted by the Ministers of SPAIN.

It also was discovered by those intercepted Letters, that soon after FRANCE had made Peace with SPAIN, she fomented the War of the POR-

PORTUGUESE, hindred them from accepting very advantageous Terms from SPAIN, and even promised them Assistance not only for their Defence, but to enable them to act offensively against SPAIN.

The Affair of PORTUGAL, was not the only Instance of the FRENCH Violation of that Treaty; for soon after the Death of PHILIP IV. then King of SPAIN, the FRENCH King laid claim to the SPANISH NETHERLANDS, contrary to the Renunciation made and most solemnly sworn to; and taking Advantage of their own good Circumstances, and the ruinous decay'd State of SPAIN, also at a Time that ENGLAND and HOLLAND were *unnaturally* engag'd in War, they entered FLANDERS with a vast Army, and without much Resistance, took *Charleroy, Tournay, Lisle, Douay, Audenard, &c.* which so alarm'd other Powers, as to hasten a Peace betwen ENGLAND and HOLLAND, and soon after to effect the the Triple Alliance, between ENGLAND, SWEDEN, and HOLLAND, for the Preservation of the SPANISH NETHERLANDS.

Nor in these Things only did the Treachery, and great Insincerity of FRANCE appear, in respect to the Observation of the PYRENEAN Treaty, but even in other Circumstances no less surprising, and of a most singular perfidious Nature. I will mention Particulars.

The Marquiss DE LA FUENTE, Ambassador Extraordinary of SPAIN to FRANCE, having Orders to return, and being jealous that the great Preparations then making in FRANCE, were intended against SPAIN, he much pressed the FRENCH King, to give his Mistress, the Queen Regent, some new Assurances, that they were not intended against her. Upon this the King, with

with all possible Assveration, *engaged his Royal Word, and Faith*, that he would religiously keep the Peace, and live in perfect Amity with her, and the young King her Son. Nay, the FRENCH King's Ambassador, the Archbishop of AMBRUN, after the FRENCH Army had actually begun Hostilities, did by his Master's Order in *verbo Sacerdotis*, and upon all that is most sacred among Papists, vow and protest to the Queen Regent, that he knew his Master would not break with the King of SPAIN; when yet a few Days brought News to the SPANISH Court, of the Hostilities the FRENCH had committed in FLANDERS, wasting their Country, and taking their Towns, as before related.

From hence we see, what little Dependance there is, on the Word of a FRENCH King, or his Ministers, as to their most solemn Engagements. That a Treaty so seriously made, cemented by Marriage, confirm'd by Oath, and the most sacred Mysteries of their Religion, should be thus violated, and the Breach thereof also attended with so many sinister, aggravated Circumstances, is a Fact scarcely to be paralleled by any Infidel Nation. However, it may serve to teach us a useful Lesson, that from the Experience of former Times, it appears, that no Word, Oath, Treaty, or Renunciation, is of any Avail with FRANCE, or Security to us, if it happens to stand in Competition with their imperious ambitious Views.

The Duke of LORAIN, was another Prince, who experienc'd the Treachery, and woful Effects of the FRENCH Power, in a Breach of the PYRENEAN Treaty, whereby his Interests as well as SPAIN, were provided for; it being therein agreed, that his Dutchy should be restored to him,

him, with all the Places and Towns he formerly posseſſed, within the Bishopricks of *Mentz*, *Toul*, and *Verdun*. But observe how the FRENCH kept their Faith with this poor Prince. They firſt refused to return him his Country, till they compelled him to make another Treaty, by which he was forced to part with more conſiderable Places than had been agreed to by the General Peace; and after nine Months precarious Enjoyment of what remained, they constrained him by Force of Arms, to give up *Marsal*.

Soon after this they oblig'd him to sign a new Treaty, ſtill more disadvantageous to him than either of the former; and yet ſo infatiable was their Appetite after Universal Dominion, that they would not ſuffer the unhappy Duke, quietly to enjoy the little left him; for they every Day encroach'd on his Jurisdiction, the Limits of his Territories, and his own Sovereign Power: They impoſed heavy Taxes on his Subjects, oblig'd him to diſband his Forces, and whenever they pleased to raise others: They kept him from revenging his own Quarrels, to take Part in ſuch as they would recommend; and when he ſeem'd to exert himſelf, they let loſe his Enemies againſt him, and ſtopt the Progress of his Arms. In Truth, he appear'd to be more a Vaffal to FRANCE, than Sovereign in his own Country. Nor would this, or any Thing leſs than all he had, ſatisfy the Demands of FRANCE; and therefore, when the Duke ex-preſſed a Sense of this arbitrary Treatment, they reſented it ſo much, as to order one of his Generals to ſurprize and feize his Person, and bring him either dead or alive. But he was fortunate, in having timely notice of the Design, ſo as to escape before it was executed.

This

This Treatment of the Duke, as one judiciously observes, “*was a new way of dealing with a Sovereign Prince, not known in these Parts of the World; and it may teach all other Princes what to trust to in Treating, and what to expect from such monstrous Neighbours; and affords a melancholy Prospect, that we may e’re long see the West governed by Bashaws, as well as the East.*” Indeed, nothing can more convincingly display to us, the Pride and Ambition, the Design and Intention of FRANCE, to acquire a despotic, tyrannizing Power over others, than what this Instance affords; since none but one who wanted to be an absolute Universal Monarch, would pretend to an arbitrary Power of displacing of Princes, and disposing of their Lives, Liberties, and Possessions.

I shall conclude these Observations, in the Words of Bishop KENNET, which will both illustrate and corroborate the Truth of them. Speaking of the PYRENEAN Treaty, says he, “As it was made in the deepest *Dissimulation* and “*Treachery*, so almost every Article of it was violated by the FRENCH. In respect to PORTUGAL, to the Prince of CONDE, to the Duke of LORRAIN, and in all likelihood in respect to ENGLAND, and with Reference to most other Things and Persons; even the main Article of all, and without which the SPANIARDS would never have endured the Match, was, for the Infanta before and after Marriage, to disclaim for herself, and her Heirs, all Manner of Right and Title, to the Kingdom of SPAIN, or any of its Dominions; and yet this, that was the Cement of all the other Articles, has been now at last most shamefully broken. Under such a Scene of *Perfidiousness*, it was the

" less Wonder, that MAZARIN should deal so
 " inhumanly by King CHARLES II. and should e-
 " ven instruct the FRENCH Ambassador BOR-
 " DEAUX in ENGLAND, to hinder the King's
 " Return, and even to set up another Usurper a-
 " gainst him. But French Politicks have been al-
 " ways false and fatal, to the true Interest of our
 " English Monarchy." *

What the Bishop meant by the Hint of MAZARIN's Endeavour to hinder the King's Return, and set up another Usurper against him, is more fully explain'd by Mr. Lock, in his Memoirs of the Earl of SHAFTSBURY, which being a Part of History that few are acquainted with, it may be acceptable to recite the Passage. Mr. Lock says,

" That MONK had agreed with the FRENCH Ambassador, to take the Government on himself, by whom he had a Promise from MAZARIN of Assistance from FRANCE, to support him in this Undertaking. This Bargain was struck between them late at Night, but not so secretly, but that MONK's Wife, who had posted herself behind the Hangings, where she could hear all that passed, finding what was resolv'd on, sent immediately Notice of it by her Brother CLARGES, to Sir ANTHONY ASHLEY COOPER, (aftermade Earl of SHAFTSBURY.) She was zealous for the Restoration of the King, and had promised Sir ANTHONY to watch her Husband, and inform him from Time to Time how Matters went; upon this Sir ANTHONY summoned the Council of State, and before them, indirectly charging MONK with what he had learned, proposed, that to remove all Scruples, MONK would at

* Compleat Hist. Vol. III. 236.

" that

" that instant, take away the Commissions of
 " such and such Officers in his Army, and give
 " them to those he should Name. By this Means
 " the Army ceased to be at MONK's Devotion,
 " and was put into Hands, that would not serve
 " him, in the Design he had undertaken."

This secret History is a most undeniable Proof of the great Power, Influence, and Interest which the FRENCH had in our Civil Wars, as also of their Insincerity, and Treachery to our King CHARLES, whose Restoration they had with many solemn Assurances engag'd to espouse, tho' by this it is evident they privately acted in direct Opposition thereto.

The next Thing I shall consider, is their sincere, upright Carriage towards us, and the DUTCH, in the Reign of CHARLES II.

That the FRENCH instigated, and at last effected a War between us and them in the Year 1665. no Person conversant in History, can be well ignorant of. Mr. Secretary BENNET himself, in a Letter to Sir RICHARD FANSHAW, our Ambassador at SPAIN, dated the 27th of April 1665. admits the Truth of it: Says he, " There be
 " many Instances to prove that a War with the
 " DUTCH was pushed on by the FRENCH and
 " Popish Interest, and even the Mediation of the
 " FRENCH King, was but a Feint, to set us more
 " effectually together by the Ears. Our Ministers
 " saw it, and in Effect confess'd it." And it is
 well observ'd by Bishop KENNET *, That tho'
 the King of FRANCE had promised to assist the
 DUTCH in the War, and their greatest Hopes and
 Dependence were in the FRENCH King, yet he
 only sent them a Supply of some sickly Troops,
 who could do no other Service, but that of in-

* *Kennet's Hist. Vol. III. p. 279.*

fecting a Camp, and therefore were sent to Quarter in the *Brandenburgers* Country, as if going merely for FRENCH Air. Nay, it afterwards plainly appeared, that the FRENCH purposely declined joining the DUTCH against us, that they and we might destroy one another.

But the FRENCH King's Policy and Treachery during the *Dutch War*, was yet more remarkably odious ; for instead of sending his promised Fleet, to assist the DUTCH, he sent it to destroy the ENGLISH in their Plantations, upon the *Leward Islands*, and almost totally expelled the ENGLISH out of *St. Christophers*, and interrupted all the Trade in those Parts. Their Baseness in this Affair, notoriously evinces their Enmity towards us, and which is impossible for them to conceal.

The Year 1672. is also fruitful of several Occurrences, and supplies me with many Materials, to embellish and farther illustrate the Truth and Certainty of the Argument I am engaged in.

Then it was, that ENGLAND and FRANCE declared War against the DUTCH, and as in the former War, the FRENCH Fleet were to join the DUTCH against us, so in this, they were to join the ENGLISH against them ; tho' with equal Caution not to fight themselves, but only to be Spectators of our beating each other. This appeared in the very first Engagement, for tho' the FRENCH had most Sea-Room, when the Fight began, and might have easily done much Damage to the DUTCH, and thereby great Service to the ENGLISH, yet they only fired at a Distance, and most of their Shot fell short ; and it is generally believed that the FRENCH Admiral, Count DE ESTREES, had secret Orders not to expose too much his Majesty's Ships, but to let the

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ENGLISH and DUTCH Fleets engage, and destroy each other.

Tho' the FRENCH were thus pacifick at Sea, on Land they took off the Mask, and made such prodigious rapid Conquests, as to put the States in a perfect Consternation. Nay, their Terror and Apprehensions of Danger, were so great, as to remove from the Hague to *Amsterdam*, for their better Security, opening the Sluices, and laying the Country round under Water, to the Damage of at least eighteen Millions of Gelders. For by June 28. the FRENCH were within four Leagues of *Rotterdam*, and about the same Distance from *Amsterdam*, with a Royal Army of at least 118000 Foot, and 26000 Horse, composed of the best Troops that had been ever seen, commanded by two of the greatest Generals of the Age, the Prince of CONDE and the Marshal Turenne, and who being encouraged by the King in Person, carried all before them like an impetuous Torrent.

These sudden and surprising Victories, both amazed and terrified the DUTCH ; and the States General, as well as DE WIT, must have been sacrificed to the Rage and Fury of the People, had they not immediately come to a Resolution, to revoke the perpetual Edict, by which they had oblig'd themselves never to admit of a Stadholder, and restore the then Prince of ORANGE, (afterwards their and our glorious Deliverer) to that Hereditary Honour ; and there seems to be almost equal Necessity now, that the Remains of our immortal *Hero*, should have conferr'd on him the same Honours his great Ancestors enjoy'd, that the Prowess of FRANCE may again be humbled, before it becomes impracticable.

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These Resolutions of the States, however necessary at that Time, yet were not sufficient to appease the dreadful Apprehensions they labour'd under; for they forthwith sent Deputies to the King of ENGLAND, to represent the common Danger of EUROPE, and the Necessity of restraining the violent Progress of the FRENCH Arms: Upon which King CHARLES II. appointed Ambassadors Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, to treat jointly with such as should be appointed by the most Christian King, with any Deputies or Commissioners of the States. But the FRENCH King's imperious Answer to the Ambassadors, is so expressive of the superlative Pride, and impetuous Ambition, of that superb haughty Monarch LEWIS XIV. that it would be unpardonable not to give it. The Words were,

That the King of ENGLAND might treat as he pleased, but that what he himself had got by his Arms, was his own, and that what he should get, he would not restore without an Equivalent.

By this Answer we may see what little Regard FRANCE pays to any mediating Powers, when ever their good Offices, consist not with their Views of obtaining absolute and Universal Dominion ; and farther, that whatever FRANCE once conquers, she will keep Possession of.

A Writer of good Note in the Reign of King CHARLES the Second, gives us so particular a Relation of the Conduct of FRANCE at that Time, that I beg leave to transcribe the Passage.

" It were both needless and tedious to tell, how
 " well they have observed their Treaties with
 " HOLLAND, seeing they cannot so much as af-
 " sign the least Cause of the War they now make
 " against them, unless to please the most Christian
 " King, by putting all EUROPE in a Flame, in
 " hopes

" hopes of bringing all under his Subjection. How-
 " ever it may not be amiss to observe, how
 " they practised their Art, upon that notable Fox
 " the Bishop of MUNSTER, how they not only
 " lurch'd him during his Contest with the UNI-
 " TED PROVINCES, but their FRENCH Troops
 " fell also upon him, and endangered the Loss
 " of his Country: How they another Time
 " brought him about to lurch us in ENGLAND,
 " by reducing him to a Necessity of separating
 " from our Interest, after he had receiv'd Af-
 " fistance from us in a good Sum of Money:
 " How they hinder'd the SWEDES from arming
 " in our Favour, and swayed DENMARK from
 " our Party, during our War with the DUTCH,
 " and even at the same Time, when FRANCE
 " seem'd to favour us against HOLLAND. And
 " it hath been often publish'd, that *they spurred*
 " on the Dutch to affront us in the River Thames,
 " thinking thereby to exasperate us so much a-
 " gainst HOLLAND, as to render us irreconcile-
 " able, and engage us so long in War, till the
 " Men and Shipping of each other were wasted
 " and worn out, that we might be the less able
 " to oppose FRANCE, who was at that Time
 " meditating and forming such a mighty Ad-
 " vance of her own Naval Power, as might en-
 " able her to contend against us both, when we
 " should see it our Interest to unite against her;
 " and the Truth is, the FRENCH Ministers did
 " herein act very politically; for they well
 " knew, that *in order to their main End of grasp-*
 " *ing all, they ought to dread nothing more, than a*
 " durable Friendship, between us and the UNITED
 " PROVINCES, as what alone can set Bounds to
 " their Ambition, and redeem EUROPE from that
 " Yoke which they are framing and devising, how

" to

" to put about our Necks. Therefore it was dex-
 " trously done of them, to find out a fine *Arti-*
 " *tifice of Treachery to delude us both*, and spin out
 " that War; for in the very Heat of the War,
 " they kept Negotiations still on Foot, both in
 " ENGLAND and at the HAGUE, *put on a Disguise*
 " *of Mediation*, pretending to make us Friends;
 " and to that Purpose made Overtures and Pro-
 posals of Peace. It might be told who were
 " the Instruments on both Sides, to push on their
 " Project of Illusion upon us so far, that we in
 " ENGLAND were assured by the FRENCH, that
 " the DUTCH were so well inclined to Peace,
 " that they intended to lay up their Men of
 " War; but at the same Time the FRENCH under-
 " hand pressed the DUTCH with all Vigour and
 " Earnestness imaginable against us, and to fit out
 " their Men of War again, promising that rather
 " than fail, they would join their own Ships with
 " the DUTCH against us. It was upon a Supposi-
 " tion the FRENCH were true to us at that Time,
 " in carrying on their pretended Proposals of
 " Peace, that we were made secure, slackened
 " our Preparations that Year, and so a Surprize
 " follow'd upon it; for the DUTCH having been
 " tarantulated with a FRENCH Breeze in their Tails,
 " danced after the Lesson they had set them, and so
 " entered our River as high as Chatham. It was
 " their Pretence of bringing about a Peace that ren-
 " dered us secure, when indeed we had no Security but
 " in War, or Peace of our own making; which may
 " sufficiently instruct us at our own Cost, what Se-
 " curity is to be expected from FRENCH Amity and
 " Treaty." Thus far my Author.

I hope the Reader will pardon the Length of
 this Quotation, it being pertinent to my present
 Design, and so very applicable to the Conduct of
 FRANCE,

FRANCE, and the Situation of EUROPE at this Juncture ; nor does it require any Reflections, the Description being so plain and easy.

The Perfidy of FRANCE does not only appear towards Princes and States, but such Rebels and Traytors, as they have with Money encouraged to betray their own Country, have also experienced the same ; for in the Year 1672. when they saw the Emperor would in earnest assist the DUTCH, in order to divert him therefrom, they offered to deliver into his Hands allthe Original Letters and Papers they received from their bribed Friends and Creatures in POLAND, that had confederated against the King of POLAND the Emperor's Brother-in-Law, that they might take what Course they thought fit against the Traytors. An Incident in History which ought to give Caution, to all Nations, how they correspond with the FRENCH, and concert any Measures, destructive to the Interests of their own Country, let their Bribes, or Promises of Advantage, be ever so considerable.

But it ought to be observ'd, that this seeming Mark of Friendship to his Imperial Majesty, was to make some sort of Amends, for their Treachery to him a little before. The *most Christian Ministers* had promised to assist him against the TURK, and had actually sent Forces to join the Imperial Army : But at the very same Time they settled a Correspondence with Count SERINI, TOTENBACH, and others, against the Emperor, as afterwards appeared upon the breaking out of the Conspiracy, by the Deposition of several of the Accomplices, who had convey'd both Money and Letters, from the FRENCH Ministers at Vienna, to the said Conspirators. Again,

In the Year 1680. when the Elector PALATINE, and several other Princes of the Empire, complained of the Devastations committed by the FRENCH Troops, in their Territories, contrary to the Treaties of Westphalia and Nimeguen, they could obtain no other Satisfaction, than to be told, *That little Princes, bordering upon the Confines of so great a Monarch, ought not to take Notice of every small Occasion of Complaint.* And the FRENCH were so exorbitant in their Pretensions, as to take Possession of the very Stables of the Elector of TRIERS, because they were built, as they pretended, upon their Ground: They also laid Claim to great Part of the City of Mentz, and that of Cologn; and as for Leige they demanded no less than half of it, and a considerable Tract of the adjacent Country. Pause Readers, and seriously reflect, on the imperious, arbitrary, and domineering Temper, of the FRENCH Nation.

The next Particular, most material to be considered, was the Attempts of FRANCE to have the *Dauphin* declared King of the ROMANS, a large Step towards attaining their projected Scheme of Universal Monarchy. But as the several Violences they had offer'd, to most of the Electors, had exasperated them so much, as to make the Electors averse to any Proposals of that Nature, FRANCE had no other way left, *Than to reduce the Empire and House of AUSTRIA to such Straits, as to necessitate them to implore her Aid and Assistance, which their King determined not to regard, unless the Dauphin was made King of the Romans.*

With this View, his *most Christian Majesty*, after a most *Christian Manner*, had again recourse to the OTTOMAN PORT, to assist him in his Enterprize,

terprise, and for that Purpose remitted vast Sums of Money to the TURKS, who with a most formidable Army enter'd HUNGARY, (where Count TECKLY, the Head of a Malecontent Party, had encouraged an Insurrection) and made most amazing Conquests in that Kingdom, before the Emperor was in a Condition to defend himself. Nay, the Scheme was so deeply laid, that the FRENCH King endeavour'd also to exasperate the POLES against the Emperor, and would have gladly prevailed on the King of POLAND, to have entered SILESIA with a considerable Army, whilst the TURKS were invading HUNGARY. But his POLISH Majesty, who preferred his Honour and the true Interest of his Country, before the specious Hopes of a Conquest, was so far from regarding such Proposals, that he entered into an Alliance with the Emperor against the TURKS; which so highly incensed the FRENCH King, that he order'd the Marquis DE VITRI, his Ambassador at Warsaw, to meditate a Revenge; and which that crafty Minister had so well managed with MORASTON, the High-Treasurer of POLAND, and other FRENCH Pensioners, as to have concerted the King of POLAND's Dethronement, and which would probably have been effected, had not the Project been discovered, by an intercepted Letter of MORASTON's.

The famous Partition Treaty, affords us another Instance of the FRENCH Treachery; for at the very Time, LEWIS XIV. courted King WILLIAM into that Treaty, whereby SPAIN was to descend to the Electoral Prince of BAVARIA, he by the Marquis DE HAROURT, his Ambassador to the Court of SPAIN, was playing another Game at *Madrid*, in Favour of the Duke of AVJOU, his Grandson. And the Event plainly

shews, FRANCE did then only amuse the Allies, and never had any Intention to have the SPANISH Monarchy divided: Nay, their Ministers at Madrid made use of the Partition Treaty, to incense the Grandees of SPAIN against it, pretending it was an Indignity offer'd their Monarchy; which proved a very prevalent Argument to obtain a Will, from the then crazy and half-dead King of SPAIN, in Favour of the Duke of ANJOU, as the only Remedy to prevent a Division thereof. And as soon as the King of SPAIN dy'd, his most Christian Majesty declared his Acceptance of that Will, without consulting the Allies, with whom he had so lately concluded a Treaty, *tho' it was in direct Violation thereof.* Besides which, there were also two remarkable Instruments drawn up, contrary to the Meaning of the Will, in order to perpetuate the Duke of ANJOU's Title to the Crown of FRANCE, in case his elder Brother dy'd without inheritable Issue.

Here was both Treachery, and base Contrivance, and which fully evinces that the House of BOURBON then aimed at the Union of the two Crowns, as what would be a great Step towards Universal Monarchy.

The Partition Treaty having made much Noise in the World, and on Account of which four noble Lords were impeached, the Lord Chancellor SOMERS, the Earls of PORTLAND and ORFORD, and Lord HALLIFAX; it may be an acceptable Part to let the Reader know the most material Particulars thereof; and it ought to be observ'd that the Terms were what FRANCE proposed herself, *viz.*:

“ That if the King of SPAIN died without Issue, the Electoral Prince of BAVARIA was
 “ to have the Kingdom of SPAIN, the INDIES,
 “ and

" and SPANISH NETHERLANDS ; the then Dauphin was to have NAPLES, SICILY, the Provinces of Guipuscoa on this Sides the Pyrenees, Fontarabia, and St. Sebastian, Final, and other Places of TUSCANY ; and MILAN was allotted to CHARLES, then Archduke of AUSTRIA, now Emperor of GERMANY." But the Electoral Prince of BAVARIA soon after dying, it was after agreed, " That the Archduke should have the Possession of what was intended for the Prince of BAVARIA, and that MILAN should be given to the Duke of LORAIN, which was to be incorporated with FRANCE."

And here I must beg the Reader to indulge me, in making a few Remarks on this Treaty, and the Affairs of EUROPE since, whereby it will appear, that the present Danger with which EUROPE as to its Liberties, is now threatened, proceeds from a Branch of the House of BOURBON's having not a Part only, but the whole of the SPANISH Monarchy. For tho' King WILLIAM and the States of HOLLAND came into that Treaty, it was not from any Approbation thereof, but only a Compliance with the Necessity of Affairs, and till they could put themselves in a Posture of Defenc against the evil concerted Measures of FRANCE at that Time ; whose King was so well prepared to support the Pretensions of his Grandson, on the Death of the King of SPAIN, as to have no less than sixty thousand Veteran Troops, on the Frontiers of CATALONIA and NAVARRE, also a considerable Number of Ships of War and Gallies, in several Ports of SPAIN, besides a great Camp at Compeign.

That King WILLIAM, Queen ANNE, and the whole Nation (if both Whig and Tory united in the same political Principle, may be allowed a proper

proper Term to express it,) did all conspire in one Sentiment as to the fatal Consequence of having either the whole, or Part of the SPANISH Monarchy in the Possession of the House of BOURBON, I will evidently demonstrate, after a most clear and convincing Manner, [excepting only four Years, when the late Queen was govern'd by a sort of FRENCH Maggletonian Ministers, who for a Time eclipsed Reason, Truth, and the true Interest of ENGLAND.]

The Majority of the House of Commons, that impeach'd the four noble Lords before-mention'd, all agree, were *Tories*, a strong Evidence that the then *Tories*, thought neither the Whole, nor Part of the SPANISH Monarchy, ought to be in the Possession of the House of BOURBON ; and that the same Party, nay some the very same Persons, should afterwards in 1714. consent to give up all SPAIN to that House, is such a Prodigy, as not to be explained, but by the help of the CHEVALIER, and French Gold.

King WILLIAM's Sense of the Danger attending the having any Part of the SPANISH Monarchy possess'd by one of the House of BOURBON, is fully and judiciously express'd, in his ever memorable and truly valuable last Speech. His Majesty observ'd,

" That by the FRENCH King's placing his Grand-
" son on the Throne of SPAIN, he is in a Con-
" dition to oppress the rest of EUROPE, unless
" speedy and effectual Measures be taken. Un-
" der this Pretence he is become the real Master
" of the whole SPANISH Monarchy, has made
" it entirely depending on FRANCE, and dis-
" poses of it as of his own Dominions, and has
" thereby surrounded his Neighbours in such a
" Manner,

" Manner, that tho' the Name of Peace may be said
 " to continue, yet they are put to the Expence and In-
 " convenience of War.

" This must affect ENGLAND in the nearest
 " and most sensible Manner ; in respect to our
 " Trade, which will soon become precarious, in all
 " the valuable Branches of it ; in respect to our
 " Peace and Safety at Home, which we cannot
 " hope should long continue ; and in respect to
 " that Part which England ought to take in the
 " Preservation of the Liberty of Europe." The
 House of Lords by their Address, declared their
 Sentiments to be the same with his Majesty's, but
 the following Paragraph is proper to recite.

" As the placing his (the FRENCH King's)
 " Grandson on the Throne of SPAIN, is visibly
 " to the whole World the Cause of all those
 " Dangers mention'd in your Majesty's Speech,
 " and of the Breach of the Ballance of Power in
 " Europe, which the People of England are so deeply
 " engaged to preserve ; so we humbly conceive the
 " Remedy as apparent as the Disease ; and that
 " your Majesty, your Subjects and Allies, can never
 " be secure and safe, till the House of Austria be
 " restored to their Rights, and the Invader of the
 " Spanish Monarchy is brought to Reason."

Tho' it is most certain, that his Majesty and
 the House of Lords spoke only from the Reason
 of Things, without any Pretence to the Spirit
 of Prophecy, yet EUROPE has since fatally ex-
 perienced the Truth hereof, besides what is far-
 ther to be dreaded ; this Nation in Particular, as
 to the Depredations which the Spaniards have com-
 mitted in the West Indies, to the great Detriment
 and even Ruin of many of our Merchants : The Em-
 peror, in the Loss of his Italian Dominions, and
 in what more, Time only can determine.

The whole Reign of Queen ANNE, except the four last *inglorious* Years, was one continued Struggle, to fix the SPANISH Monarchy in the House of AUSTRIA, and reduce the exorbitant Power of FRANCE ; the Necessity whereof was acknowledged by all Degrees of Persons; especially by the Queen in her Speeches, the Lords and Commons in their Addresses, and which are so well known, as to render needless a Recital.

But the Prize we had for many Years gloriously fought for, and which we were just ready to possess, was after all our Victories and successful Conquests, most basely yielded up to the Enemy we had brought exceeding low ; for instead of fixing the SPANISH Monarchy in the House of AUSTRIA, the Point contended for, it was by the Treaty of Utrecht, given to the House of BOURBON. A Treaty that put a Period to England's Glory, and gave Birth to the present Commotions in Europe ; and because that eminently pious Prelate, Bishop FLEETWOOD, in a Preface to some Sermons, had with much Modesty express'd a Concern at such espoused, destructive Measures, B——KE, one of the then chief Ministers, was so delicately tender not to injure the Church of England, or incroach on the Liberty of the Press, as to order the good Bishop's most excellent Preface, to be burnt by the Hands of the Common Hangman. A remarkable Instance, that his Affection for the one, or regard to the other, is only genuine, when it seems subservient to his political Views.

This brings to my Remembrance the imminent Danger to which the Liberties of EUROPE were exposed in the Year 1714. and with what great Difficulty it was, that they escaped falling a Sa-

a Sacrifice to the Treachery and Ambition of FRANCE. How dejected were then our Spirits! how gloomy our Apprehensions! at the premeditated, and almost inevitably effected Preclusion, of the House HANOVER, from the Crown of GREAT BRITAIN. When the Cause and Interest of our most antient best Allies, the Protestant reformed Religion, and the Tranquility of this Island, were rendered exceedingly precarious, from our then apparent dangerous Situation. A Conjunction of Time so very remarkable, and pregnant of various future Evils, that Sir RICHARD STEEL, (whose Memory will ever be had in grateful Remembrance, by all who are Friends to Liberty and the Protestant Succession) publish'd a Treatise, entitled, *The Crisis*; a Title very expressive of our Melancholy Circumstances, at that critical Period of Time.

And as the Power of the House of BOURBON, daily gains Ground, and threatens Ruin not only to the EMPIRE, but all EUROPE, I beg leave to extract a Paragraph or two from that useful Treatise, as being very pertinent to the present Occasion. Says he, speaking of the House of AUSTRIA, and the present EMPEROR,

“ The Male Line of that House is likely to
 “ terminate in himself, and should it please
 “ God to take him off, and no King of the Ro-
 “ MANS chosen, a Prince of the House of Bour-
 “ bon would possibly bid fair, for the Imperial
 “ Dignity, after which Day *Farewel Liberty*,
 “ Europe would be French.—PORTUGAL, which
 “ during the War, supply’d to us the Place of
 “ SPAIN, by sending us vast Quantities of Gold,
 “ in Exchange for our Woollen Manufactures, has
 “ only a Suspension of Arms, for its Protection,
 “ and who knows but the old Pretensions of Spain

" to Portugal may be revived. We must observe,
 " that the Person who seems to be most favour-
 " ed by the FRENCH King, in the late Treaties,
 " is the Duke of SAVOY; and considering also
 " the Enlargement of his Territories on the Con-
 " tinent, by Cession from the Emperor, is become
 " the most powerful Prince in ITALY.

" This Prince put in his Claim, to the Crown of
 " GREAT BRITAIN, in the Right of his Wife,
 " a Daughter of the late Duke of ORLEANS,
 " Sister to our late King CHARLES II. at the
 " Time of settling the Crown of ENGLAND on
 " the House of HANOVER.

" Things standing thus, and the House of BOUR-
 " BON, being in the actual Possession of FRANCE
 " and SPAIN, bidding fair for the Conquest of
 " GERMANY, what have GREAT BRITAIN and
 " HOLLAND to hope from, but the Mercy of
 " FRANCE? What else have we to prevent the
 " Pretender's being imposed on us, when FRANCE
 " shall think fit? Nay, in Failure of one Pre-
 " tender, he has in his Quiver a Succession of
 " them: The Duchess of SAVOY, or her Sons,
 " or the Dauphin her Grandson, * the last named,
 " cannot be many Years from the Throne of
 " FRANCE.

It must be observed, this was not the single Opinion of Sir RICHARD STEEL, but the prevailing Sentiments of all the then *Whigs*, and such as were sincerely attach'd to the Protestant Succession; whose Fears for its Safety, and the European Liberties, were built on too solid Foundations to be appeased: Nor were they dissipated, till Divine Providence graciously interposed, and frustrated the Designs of our restless and irrecon-

* The present French King.

cleable Enemies, by permitting that Succession to take Place, no less to the Security and Preservation of our Religion, Laws, and Liberties, the Tranquility of our Kingdom, and the Safety of our Allies, than the Disappointment and Confusion of those, who with indefatigable Industry had contrived and almost compleated, our Ruin and Desolation.

And if at that Time it was too apparent, that should " the EMPEROR die without Issue Male, " and no King of the ROMANS chosen, A Prince of the House of BOURBON, would bid fair for the Imperial Dignity, and that EUROPE would be FRENCH, and Liberty extinguished, what must we think will be EUROPE's Fate, when we yet see the EMPEROR without Issue Male, no King of the ROMANS declared, and himself attacked by the united Powers of FRANCE, SPAIN, and SARDINIA ; when NAPLES, SICILY, and the MILANESE, are wrested from him by the treacherous Arts of the BOURBON Family ?

If then in the Year 1714. we were justly alarmed with Danger, from the exorbitant Power of FRANCE ; if a Grand-Alliance entered into by many Potentates, was not formerly sufficient to restrain the Progress of her Arms, when unassisted by SPAIN ; what have we to abate our Fears now ? When we see not only FRANCE and SPAIN in the actual Possession of the House of the House of BOURBON, but NAPLES, SICILY, and the MILANESE ; the MANTUAN in all human Appearance destined to the same Fate. SARDINIA possessed by one of its Creatures and Dependents. The Elector of BAVARIA with 40000 Men ready to attack the EMPEROR. The Kingdom of POLAND also insisted on for a Father-in-Law of FRANCE ; whose Pretensions to that

Crown, have not only in Part occasioned the present War, but his most Christian Majesty positively refuses to accept any Plan of Accommodation, till that Demand is complied with; and is it possible for the Emperor single and alone, to resist Alliances so potent and powerful? Especially if we view him in a true Light, unassisted by the States of the Empire, and all his ancient Allies; his Treasure exhausted; his Army, thro' fatal Battles, and a raging Mortality, considerably diminished and reduc'd; and left to *tug* by himself for the Rights of his Ancestors, and the Exercise of the Imperial Power in his own Dominions. And what a Melancholy Prospect must this be to all, who have at Heart the Liberties of EUROPE! in what a pathetic Strain of moving Eloquence, would Sir RICHARD STEEL have expostulated, and with his masterly Pen describ'd, the Danger of GERMANY, GREAT BRITAIN and HOLLAND, had he been living to see the House of BOURBON's new Acquists, extended Conquests, and most powerful Alliances. For should GERMANY be subdued, what, indeed, as that true Patriot well observ'd, have we and HOLLAND to hope from, but the *Mercy* of FRANCE? And how much nearer is that now, than when he wrote? And which, whenever accomplished, farewell European Liberty, the Rights of Englishmen, the Glory and Prosperity of this Kingdom, and the Religion of Protestants. For whether the Vice-Roy of FRANCE to govern this Nation, be taken from Rome or Savoy, it will be little material to us, when we are become vanquish'd Slaves to the imperious Will and Power of a Nation, whose Enmity towards us is innate, and as antient as the Kingdom itself: To a Prince whose *absolute Will* is ever *legal*, and who by universal Dominion,

nion, may then truly bear the Title of *Catholic*, how little soever the *most Christian*, may correspond with his Principles and Practices.

Indeed the Rupture between the Crowns of SPAIN and PORTUGAL, may possibly respite and suspend for a Time, the Execution of those Schemes which so evidently seem calculated, to complete and perfect, the Fate and Destiny of the reformed Parts of EUROPE. But should SPAIN renew her old Pretensions to PORTUGAL, and succeed in a Conquest thereof, then will that Kingdom also be in the Possession of the House of BOURBON ; by which we shall lose a very useful Ally, and profitable Trade. A Trade which, as Bishop BURNET observes, “ is the “ most advantageous of any ; for besides a great “ Vent for our Manufactures, we bring over “ yearly great Returns of Gold from thence, “ four, five, or six hundred thousand Pounds a “ Year.” A Loss too great for ENGLAND to bear.

For my own Part, I do seriously believe, there cannot be a more convincing Instance of the renewed Designs of FRANCE, to obtain *Universal Monarchy*, than what may be collected from the Situation of the present War against the Emperor. Heretofore it was pretended, that FRANCE would be satisfied, if SPAIN only, was possess'd by one of the House of BOURBON, tho' that was judged by all the Powers of EUROPE, as a most dangerous Expedient ; and yet we see even that does not content them ; for they have since devour'd Naples, Sicily, Milan, and near all the Mantuan ; and without doubt the Empire itself, is what they now as much aim at, as formerly they did SPAIN. And can we imagine, with any Degree of Reason, they will stop there ? No certainly, they

they will not be able to resist the Temptation of being Masters of HOLLAND; Provinces they have long coveted; after which ENGLAND must fall of Course; for can any be so absurd as to think they would not then molest us? Alas! vain Thought; unless we are subdued, all their other Conquests, will be incompleat.

In a Book dedicated to LEWIS XIV. entitled, *The just Pretences of the King of FRANCE to the Empire*, are to be found these Assertions.

First, *That the greatest Part of Germany is the Patrimony and antient Inheritance of the French Princes.*

Secondly, *That Charlemain did possess Germany as King of France, and not as Emperor of Germany.*

By this it appears that the FRENCH claim GERMANY as a Matter of Right; and will FRANCE want as good or better Title to ENGLAND, when backed with powerful Armies, so long as one Prince nearly related to her King, claims an *Hereditary Right* to our Crown. And that another who pretends thereto, was told by the late FRENCH King, when he presented him with a Sword, and sent him to invade us: "Remember," says LEWIS XIV. putting the Sword into the "Pretender's Hands, If you prove Successful, that "it was a French Sword". To which the other most dutifully replied, "That if it was his good "Fortune to get Possession of the Throne of "his Ancestors, he would not content himself "with returning him Thanks by Letters and "Ambassadors, but would shew his Gratitude by "his Actions.*

* Memoirs of Chevalier de St. George, p. 50;

And could the most tender Parent express himself in Terms more affectionate towards an own Son, or the most dutiful Child to the most indulgent of Parents. Here was the Sword of FRANCE put into the Hands of the *Pretender*, with a View of making the Conquest of ENGLAND, to reduce us to a FRENCH Province, and with the Misery of Slavery, to be made ignominious Slaves at second Hand, which we may be assured will be the *Fate of ENGLAND* the Moment FRANCE or the *Pretender* have it in their Power.

But if possible to prevent us from falling, into that *more than Egyptian Bondage*, let us *exercise* our Reason, our Courage, our Fleets and Armies, to oppose and keep off the Fetters, before they are *linked on*, when it will be in vain to attempt it. Let us represent to our Minds, and, from the Cruelty of Barbarians to Christian Slaves, form Ideas of what we shall more sadly experience ; and let no Argument that can be thought of be omitted, that may tend to describe to us what we are to expect, from the pretended Friendship and real Enmity of FRANCE. Let us for these Purposes bring to Remembrance, other Instances than what are yet mention'd, of the political Arts and Stratagems, which the FRENCH Ministers have formerly play'd in all Parts of EUROPE, and which ought to be a *Caveat to the present Age.*

How Cardinal RICHLIEU effected the *Revolt* of PORTUGAL from the SPANIARDS, raised a Rebellion in CATALONIA, and carry'd on the War in both Countries, to bring down the Power of SPAIN. How he *tamper'd* with the SWEDE, under GUSTAVUS ADOLPHUS, to invade the Empire, and with the Emperor's General WALLESTIEN,

TIEN, to betray the Imperial Army, by which means the FRENCH King would have possess'd himself of the *Imperial Throne*, had it not been for the sudden Death of that treacherous General. How Cardinal MAZARIN after him, carried on the popular Commotions raised by MASSANELLO in the Kingdom of NAPLES, by sending the Duke of GUISE to be their Head, to the almost wresting that Kingdom out of the Hands of the SPANIARDS: How the FRENCH Intrigues, so far prevail'd in SPAIN, as in the Year 1677. to turn the Queen Mother out of the Regency, and such of her Favourites, as she thought most proper to have the Care of the young King her Son: and who designedly put the whole Court into Confusion, that being *divided at Home*, they might be *less able* at that Time to preserve the FLEMMINGS, or assist the HOLLANDERS: How they *fomented* the Civil Wars in ENGLAND, and would have prevented the Restoration of our King CHARLES: How they *spirited* up the DE WITS, and the LOVENSTEN Party in the UNITED PROVINCES against the then Prince of ORANGE, afterwards our great Deliverer: How they have frequently encouraged the Hungarians to rebel against the Emperors of GERMANY, and confederated with the GRAND SEIGNIOR, not only to *disturb*, but many Times *endanger* the Safety of Christendom; (and for which Reason Lord HERBERT observes, that the Pope had like to have given away the Title of *Most Christian*, from the FRENCH King FRANCIS I. and to have conferr'd it on our King HENRY VIII. before his Holiness had dubbed him with that of *Defender of the Faith.*) How they have been the common Enemies of every State, destroying the Peace of Government every where, *sowing* of *Factions* either in the Courts

Courts of Princes, in their *Councils*, or among their *Subjects*. Sometimes by Turns setting one Prince against another, as they formerly did by the Electors of PALATINE and MENTZ; alternately taking the Part of one or other, whereby their Countries were most miserably harassed and depopulated; and poor DANTZICK, POLAND, the EMPIRE, and ITALY, are melancholy Instances at this Time, of the dismal Effects of the Artifices and Treachery, the Power and Ambition of FRANCE.

As the Emperor's late Memorial at the *Hague* is a modern Testimony to establish the Truth I have asserted, so the Facts therein particularized, are of no less modern Date than they contain certain Assurances, that the House of BOURBON is at this Instant engaged in the most pious Designs of their Ancestors. Permit me to select a few Paragraphs from thence.

" The more his BRITANNICK Majesty laboured, in employing his good Offices, for Ending all Disputes, to the Advantage of DON CARLOS, the more busy SPAIN was from thence, to take Occasion to intinuate to the Imperial Court, that the Emperor would find his Account more in an Union with the House of Bourbon, than in the Guaranties of the two Maritime Powers; that without such an Union, they would keep his ITALIAN Territories in continual Fears and Alarms; and that they would take particular Care, to chuse the most convenient Time for giving the Blow, when it should not be in the Power of his Imperial Majesty's Allies, to make good those Engagements upon which he so much depended.

While the Court of SPAIN made use of these Arguments without Success, that of "FRANCE pursued a Method something different, but such as tended to the same End.—She let slip no Opportunity to disunite, and sow Discord among those, who ought always to join in Defence of the Liberty of Europe.—She moved Heaven and Earth against the Order of Succession, which had been established in the August House of AUSTRIA: She flattered the Hopes of all those who had an Eye towards appropriating to themselves any Part of the Territories of the House of AUSTRIA. Long before the Death of the late King AUGUSTUS, the Dutchy of MILAN was offered to the King of SARDINIA, the Kingdoms of NAPLES and SICILY to the Infante DON CARLOS, and the rest of the Emperor's Kingdoms and Hereditary Countries were parcelled out in several Ways, according as the Ministers and Emissaries of FRANCE found it proper for their Purposes.—The King of FRANCE turned his whole Forces against his Imperial Majesty; the King of SARDINIA attacked him in the most perfidious Manner; and notwithstanding the Court of SPAIN having been offer'd every Thing they had ever before publickly declared they desired, they join'd with the rest in making War upon him, with all possible Vigour.—And after having swallow'd up so many Provinces one after another; after having pursued the most rapid Successes with the utmost Vigour; after having moved Heaven and Earth, in order to deprive the Emperor of his Allies; after having solicited all the Courts of EUROPE against him, and after having endeavoured as much as possibly they could, to stir up even the Turk against him, the Enemies of this

" Prince

" Prince cannot certainly, with any sort of Coun-
 " tenance, pretend to set up for having an In-
 " clination for Peace, when the contrary appears
 " by so many incontestable Proofs.

" Among those who have so often experienced, how
 " dangerous it is to trust the Professions of Franee,
 " the Emperor would do injustice to the great
 " Penetration of his BRITANNICK Majesty, and
 " to the Wisdom and Foresight of my Lords the
 " States General, if he should apprehend in the
 " least that such Artifices could make any Im-
 " pression upon their Minds, since the Views of
 " FRANCE become every Day more and more
 " manifest."

And can any Person seriously read the above Quotation, more especially the whole Memorial, without discerning that the present Views of the House of BOURBON, are immediately fix'd on *Universal Empire*, and at the same Time not also commiserate the unhappy Situation of the Emperor, who is the greater Object of their Hatred, as having been a necessary Ally to GREAT BRITAIN, and for that Reason, is *destined* to be their *first Sacrifice*, unless we generously interpose to prevent it.

From the aforesaid Facts it evidently appears, that it is *ingrafted* as it were in the *Nature* of the Bourbon Family, to be arbitrary and insolent, to usurp and domineer over the just Rights of Princes, and the natural Liberties of Mankind; and to make it their chief Amusement, and Diversion, to disturb and interrupt the Peace and Happiness of the Universe. Surely, such a Behaviour is inconsistent with the End and Design of Government, very unbecoming the high Station of Kings and Princes, and most certainly displeasing to the divine *Author* of their Being,

whose most amiable Character is that of Mercy and Goodness, and who could not intend to exempt any one created Being, whether Prince or Subject, from an Observance of those *Moral Duties*, that in the Nature of Things are just, fit, and reasonable ; and which must consequently be of an eternal Obligation.

I should not have taken so much Pains to bring to Light their *hidden Deeds of Darkness*, had not the dangerous Situation of Affairs *Abroad*, to be imputed solely to the restless Temper, and ambitious Projects of that House, and which *soon* may more nearly affect us, made it absolutely necessary. When the common Fate of EUROPE is at Stake, it is no Time to be complaisant, or conceal from the Public, the *past*, and what may be expected, will be the *future* Conduct of those, whose Ambition and Dissimulation are so notorious, and of whom it may be truly said, that they never engaged in War to favour any Party, but with an Intent to exasperate ; nor made Peace, with any other View, than to sow new Seeds of Division, and break it again, when an Advantage offered.

It therefore much concerns us, to hinder their farther violating the *Law of Nations*; to maintain the Public Faith of *Treaties* with our *Allies*, against their *Finesse*s and subtle Evasions ; and to meditate such Methods, as may stop a rapid Torrent of Conquests, and reduce an unbounded Power, to reasonable Limits : We should think it our Duty, as well as Interest, to defend the Right of *Princes* and *States*, against a *vast* Design : A Design that is founded on a predominant Desire of Conquest, and to obtain absolute Power, and extended Dominion, without Limit or Restriction. In a word, it is this *Nation* that must,

in Conjunction with HOLLAND, decide the Fortune of EUROPE, and sentence it either to a State of Freedom or Slavery.

His Majesty jointly with the States of HOLLAND, have used their good Offices to mediate a Peace between the Powers at War, no doubt, from an Encouragement given, that such Mediation would be accepted, and for that Purpose they offer'd a Plan of Peace ; but what has been the Result of it ? Why ! the Answer return'd by FRANCE, SPAIN, and SARDINIA, was, *That none of the proposed Articles was acceptable ; that each rejected it intirely, and expected the Mediators to draw up a new Plan of Accommodation, leaving out every Article in the former.* Haughty Monarchs ! How assuming, and expressive, of a Power dictatorial and supreme, is this Answer ? How magisterial and insolent to the mediating Powers ? in rejecting so peremptorily a Plan offer'd by them, as not containing one Article acceptable, and directing another Plan, wherein every Article of the former, must be omitted. When yet we are assured by an unquestionable Authority, “ *That the Plan of Pacification, was concert'd between Great Britain and Holland, with great Impartiality, and was so just and equitable, as not without reasonable Grounds to hope for Success.* ” *

I leave it then to every BRITON, whether this is Treatment fit for GREAT BRITAIN to bear ? If so little Regard is already paid to our Mediation, what are we to expect when the Allied Kings are something more Victorious ? It also very materially affects HOLLAND, who by such an imperious Answer ought to be alarmed as well as ourselves. With what Resentment would the be-

* His Majesty's last Speech.

roic WILLIAM III. and the *States of HOLLAND* in those Days, have receiv'd such an *imperious Answer?* Could France then have dared to have offer'd such an *Indignity.* I wish that public Spirit of *Liberty*, which was the *Life and Soul* as it were of that Great Prince, does not too much abate and subside, both in ENGLAND and HOLLAND.

It is the Observation of a great Statesman, " that the *Interest* of ENGLAND and HOLLAND " are *inseparable*, the Safety of each depending on " that of the other; For, as on the one Hand, " should HOLLAND fall under the Dominion " of FRANCE, BRITAIN would be entirely cut " off, from any Communication with the Conti- " nent, (which join'd to the great Accession of " Naval Strength, which FRANCE would acquire " by this Conquest, must bring immediate Ruin " upon BRITAIN.) So on the other Hand, HOL- " LAND must inevitably lose both its Religion " and Liberties, the Moment that FRANCE, or " any Popish Prince, gets Possession of BRI- " TAIN; from whence it necessarily follows, " that the mutual Defence and Preservation of each " other, ought to be one of the chief Maxims " of Government to both Nations.

Surely then, a People so fam'd for Wisdom and Prudence, will at this *critical* Conjunction, with their *usual Judgment* and Delicacy of Thought, distinguish such as have in View only *sinister Ends* and private Advantages, from those, who have the Safety, Security, and general *Interest* of their Country honestly at Heart. The latter would easily discern, even without the *least* Hesitation, the *superior Inducements* there are to submit, to the limited, reasonable, Power of a STATHOLDER, supposing it was the Case, rather than to the unlimited, imperious Will, of an *ab-
solute*

solute capricious Prince, to the Power and Resentment of a Nation, who at first zealously opposed their being a Free State, have ever since been jealous of their rising Greatness, still envy their Prosperity, are incessantly contriving, and impatiently expecting, their fatal Ruin and Extinction, and whose Oppression will be found heavier than any can fully describe, or possibly bear.

What has been said, with the following Considerations, will I hope be sufficient to convince any impartial Person, that as we have tried all amicable Methods to obtain a Peace, so no other Expedient remains but that of War; and that such a Resolution is both highly reasonable and absolutely necessary, I will endeavour more clearly to evince.

And permit me to ask, if the dangerous Situation of the Emperor from the Arms of FRANCE and SPAIN, which in its Consequence must soon affect us in a sensible Manner, can be seen and acknowledged by all, without admitting that so singular a Circumstance, is one just Reason for our engaging in a War at this Time? The Dominion of the House of BOURBON is already extended beyond all tolerable Allowance, and their Power and Greatness will soon become superior to their neighbouring States and Kingdoms, whom they will as usual call petty Princes, and consider only as the small Dust in the Balance. And therefore unless we interpose to check in the Bud, their successful Progress, in subduing Kingdoms, probably it will soon be out of our Power, either to assist our Allies, or defend ourselves.

That judicious Prince the Duke of ROHAN, in his Book, stating the Interests of Princes, determines it to be the undoubted Interest of ENGLAND to keep such a Balance of Power between the

the EUROPEAN Princes, as not to suffer either to become so powerful as to oppress another; and more especially to take care the Scale should be at all Times held even between FRANCE and the House of AUSTRIA, and if either exceed in Power, as soon as possible to reduce it to an Equality; and indeed it was by the Observation of this Maxim, that the antient Grandeur of ENGLAND became so exalted and conspicuous; our HENRY VIII. very dexterously observ'd it, between CHARLES V. Emperor and King of SPAIN, and the FRENCH King FRANCIS I. the two grand Competitors for Power in that Age; and our excellent first reforming Princess ELIZABETH pursued the same Steps. By the Influence of this commendable Piece of Policy, ENGLAND was in a Condition whenever she pleased, to dispense Peace or War to every Nation, whereby great Honour redounded to ourselves.

As then the Preservation of the Balance of Power in Europe, is one, so the Safety and Security of the Protestant Religion, is also another, very momentous Consideration, to engage us in the present War; since should the Empire fall into the Hands of the House of BOURBON, it cannot be in the Power of Man, to prevent its being extirpated EUROPE. This is a Truth indisputable, and therefore no doubt it is, that our Papists and Jacobites among us, (who God knows are very numerous,) so much interest themselves in the Affairs abroad; and as Whigs, and those who are hearty Friends to the present Royal Family, the Liberties of EUROPE, and the Protestant Religion, have during the War expressed themselves as well Wishers to the Emperor and King AUGUSTUS; so have the others shewn their Affection and good Will towards FRANCE, SPAIN, and

and King STANISLAUS; an invincible Argument, that tho' each of the contending Powers, are of the same Religion, yet that they have much greater *Things to hope for*, from the one, than they have from the other.

And it may not be amiss in this Place, to bring to our Remembrance, how the FRENCH formerly most cruelly persecuted the poor Protestants, to whom they gave the Nick-Name of *Huguenots*. Pufendorf informs us, that in the Year 1563. 50000 of them were slain by the FRENCH in War; and of that dreadful Massacre at *Paris Anno 1570*, he gives this Account: " A Marriage was concluded between HENRY King of NAVARRE (afterwards the FRENCH King) and MARGARET the King's Sister, to which Wedding they invited the Chief of the *Huguenots*, with a Design to cut their Throats in *Paris*; and first of all the Admiral COLIGNY, as he was going home from Court, was by some Villians, who were suborn'd by the Duke of GUISE, shot with two Bullets through the Arm. Then it was agreed, That in the Year 1572. on the Twenty fourth of *August* early in the Morning, when the Bells were ringing to Prayers, all the *Huguenots* should be massacred, except the young King of NAVARRE, and the young Prince of CONDI; the Execution of this Enterprize, the Duke of GUISE had taken upon himself. The Beginning of the Massacre was made with COLIGNY, who was ill of his Wounds. Then it fell promiscuously upon the rest, the Fury of the Mob not ceasing till after seven Days Slaughter; a great many other Cities of FRANCE followed the Example of *Paris*, so that within a few

" Days, near 30000 were miserably massacred."** But according to the Bishop of Rhodes, there were near one hundred thousand, that were assassinated in cold Blood.

And was ever any *Pagan* or *Infidel* Persecution of *Christians*, conducted with more Treachery, as well as Cruelty? Lord keep us from the French Power, for their Mercies are cruel!

Again, in the Year 1687. the Persecution of the Protestants in FRANCE, was as effectual as Malice and Tyranny could render it. Vast Numbers of those distressed People were glad to fly for Refuge to other more merciful States and Kingdoms, till their very Flight was made criminal, as well as their Profession. Many of them came over into ENGLAND, of whom some brought, or had privately sent over, sufficient Effects with them; but far greater Numbers came in a true State of Persecution, empty and naked, to depend on the Hospitality and Charity, of this good-natured Kingdom.

The bloody Execution at Thon, and the terrible Persecution of the poor Strasburghers, are modern Instances, recent, and within our own Memory, to assure us, that the Principles of Papists, are as cruel and inhuman now, as they were heretofore, and no doubt will be always the same; and which must afford us a most dismal Prospect of what we are to expect, should the House of BOURBON succeed in their Designs, of acquiring an Universal Monarchy.

The Security of our Trade, is another powerful Argument for our entring into a War against FRANCE. How they injure us in the Woollen Ma-

* Puf. Introd. p. 188, 190.

nufactory, by running our Wool, and enticing a-way our Workmen in that Branch of Trade, whereby they undersel us in Foreign Markets, to our great Loss and Detriment, is notoriously known to all. The great Depredations the SPANIARDS have committed on our Ships trading to the *West Indies*, to the utter undoing of many Families, is what our Merchants have fatally experience'd for many past Years ; and yet how little does the *Spanish Court* regard the Complaints of our *Merchants*, or the pressing Instances of our *Ministers*, for a Redress of their Grievances, and to receive Satisfaction wherein they have suffered. Alas ! they are deaf to every reasonable Proposition of that Kind ; and if they are longer permitted to interrupt that Branch of our Trade, and which only a War can prevent, we must lay aside all Thoughts of trading any farther in those Parts.

What was observ'd by one, who had well consider'd the Interest of ENGLAND, with regard to FRANCE and SPAIN, in the Year 1705, much deserves our Notice. Says he, " As by the Accession of the Duke of Anjou, the FRENCH King's Grandson, to the Throne of SPAIN, that Monarchy and FRANCE appear now to be but one Government, in respect to most of the other Powers of EUROPE ; so it is absolutely the Interest of ENGLAND to break that Union ; without which they are in inevitable Danger of losing for ever their Trade, not only with Spain, but also even in the Streights and the Levant itself, — If it was for the Interest of ENGLAND (as actually it was) to engage in so expensive a War, about seventeen Years ago, for the curbing the exorbitant Power of FRANCE, it appears to be so much more now, when by

“ the Accession of so vast a Monarchy as that of
 “ SPAIN, and the Treasures of the *West Indies*,
 “ the FRENCH King appears more than ever, in
 “ a Condition to bid fair once more for that universal
 “ Monarchy, to the obtaining of which he has sacri-
 “ ficed such immense Treasures, and so many hun-
 “ dred thousand Souls.”

We have since found by woful Experience, every Part of this verified; and if in the Year 1705. these Considerations were good Reasons for continuing the War then, they ought to be esteemed more powerful ones to begin it again now, since SPAIN is not only possess'd by one of the House of BOURBON, but also NAPLES and SICILY. The Danger whereof to ENGLAND was fully heretofore represented to King CHARLES II. Anno 1677. by both Lords and Commons in their Addresses. They observ'd, “ *That the Interest of his Majesty and the Safety of his People, were highly concern'd in the Security and Preservation of the Spanish Netherlands; and that it was of great Importance to our Trade, that Sicily be not in the Hands of the French King.*”

Let me farther add, that the Ambition of the House of BOURBON is so insatiable, that without a War, no Peace will be satisfactory, it being their Interest to be at War, till absolute Monarchy is obtained. Besides, it ought to be considered that the younger Brothers of the FRENCH Nobility and Gentry, are to make their Fortunes by War, it being that on which they chiefly depend, to support their Character, so that War may not improperly be called their Trade; and if they were not employ'd Abroad, they would by a mutinous Popularity, soon become troublesome and uneasy at Home.

Indeed, if FRANCE was to live long in Peace, it would be difficult, if not impossible, for their Kings to keep their Marshals, Dukes, and chief Nobility, in a State of *Dependance* on the *Crown*; since their Pride, Ambition, and luxurious Life, could not be supported without military Commands, Offices, and Governments in the conquered Places. But as these are Reasons why War, and not Peace, is both their Interest and Inclination, so are they no less very powerful Considerations and Motives, for our engaging in a War, as we may thereby anticipate their political Views, and prevent their Conquests in Time, before they acquire such Power as will be insuperable, and not possible to be restrain'd.

But perhaps some will say, if Things are as I have represented them, why did we not assist the Emperor sooner? And that now it is too late, when he has lost his ITALIAN Dominions. This Point I will beg leave to consider in the best Manner I can.

As the Design of this little Piece, is not intended either to *justify* or *condemn*, the Part our *Ministry* have acted, my *Views* being only to *animate* and *excite* in us a *Resolution to defend* our *Liberties*, and that of EUROPE, from the present dangerous Attempts of the *Bourbon Family*, to destroy them; and in regard I am not *privy* to, or *apprized* of, the Reasons inducing the past or future intended Measures of his Majesty, in so important a Concern; it cannot be expected from me, to urge with *infallible Certainty*, the *Motives* influencing his *Majesty's Conduct*. Princes and their Ministers must in the Reason and Nature of Things, have the best and truest Intelligence, and first Notice of the Designs and Intrigues of other Courts; it is therefore just and reasonable, that such

such Advantages so peculiar to them, should be not only consider'd and allow'd, but also, that a due regard be paid to their superior Knowledge in those Particulars. Thus much I thought needful to observe, least I might be *censured* for being *rash* and *impertinent*; with humble Deference then it is, that I beg leave to offer my Sentiments in an Affair so nice and delicate.

I believe then every judicious Person, will admit it to be an Instance of great Wisdom and Prudence in his Majesty, that he did not precipitately plunge the Nation into a War, without previously endeavouring amicably to reconcile and adjust the Differences in Dispute, between the contending Powers. Such a mediating Part being expressed or implied in the Treaties of all Princes in Alliance, previous to any Declaration of Assistance. Besides, as such a Procedure, is highly reasonable in itself, so to act otherwise, would often be exceeding dangerous for any Ally; as it might provoke the Enemy of an Ally to turn his Arms, against the Power sought to for Assistance, before they could be in a Posture to defend themselves, much less able to assist such an Ally; and in the present Case, it was undoubtedly most proper so to do, in regard to our *Trade*, as it would have been of infinite Prejudice to our *Merchants*, whose Ships and Effects would most certainly have been seized by the FRENCH and SPANIARDS, had we declared a War, before they had timely Notice thereof, or that we by our Fleet could have defended them from Danger.

Besides, our own Situation during the last Year's Campaign, ought also to be taken into Consideration; a Period of Time, no doubt, calculated on purpose by FRANCE and her Allies, for executing their projected Schemes againg the Em-

Emperor. We all know it was when the Nation
 - was oblig'd to make choice of a new Representative
 in Parliament: When our Feuds and Animosities
 were at a great Height; when the Seeds of Di-
 vision and Discord, which had been before sown
 among us, by the vigilant Industry, the artful
 Insinuations, of that *Arch-Agent*, and *Solicitor-*
General to the Enemy of our Peace, our Trade
 and Religion, wonderfully became fruitful, to
 encrease our Dissentions and unhappy Differences.
 When an Enemy within our own Bowels, by a
Weekly Libel, insulted our King, our Ministry and
 former Parliaments, to render them low and de-
 spicable in the Minds of the People; thereby to
 alienate the Affections of the Friends to the pre-
 sent Government, and animate our Enemies with
 Hopes of succeeding in their Measures, by the
 help of their old darling Maxim, *Divide & Im-*
pera. When had the then Parliament encourag'd
 a War against FRANCE and her Allies, yet it
 could not be certain whether a new Parliament
 would have concurred therein. Such an incon-
 fident Conduct might have been the Case, and
 was what the Enemy aimed at, and which would
 have naturally afforded such an Instance of our
 Divisions and Instability, as could not but have
 given them great Advantage over us. That we
 therefore did not assist the Emperor the last Year's
 Campaign, discovers no Want of Inclination to
 have done it, had the Situation of our own Do-
 mestic Affairs permitted it, nor yet of any Neg-
 lect or Misconduct in our Ministers, but is a most
 convincing Proof, of the great Prudence and
 Wisdom both of his Majesty and his Minis-
 fters.

But perhaps it will be farther objected, that allowing the Reasonableness of what is alledged as to the last Campaign, yet it is inexcusable, that we did not assist the Emperor this, and thereby have saved Part of *Italy*. At first Sight this seems plausible, and I own my self to have been once of the same Mind ; but permit me to make one Supposition, and which, if true, then this Objection, instead of proving our Ministers guilty of any Neglect or Remisness towards the Emperor, or, of Disregard to the Liberties of EUROPE ; that it will evince the Truth to be quite the reverse; and also supply me with another Argument to demonstrate the present Insincerity of FRANCE, and their Aim to acquire Universal Empire.

I then beg leave to suppose, that FRANCE and her Allies, this last Winter gave due Encouragement to the Maritime Powers, that they would accept of their Mediation, to adjust the Differences between them and the Powers at War, and by an Accommodation, prevent a further Rupture in EUROPE ; and will any say, that so reasonable a Proposition, ought to have been rejected by us and the DUTCH, when it might have the Appearance and Probability of Success? I believe not. If then on Enquiry it appears this was Fact, and yet after all FRANCE and her Allies never intended, after all our good Offices, to come into any Pacific Measures, but only made use of such Artifices to amuse and divert the Maritime Powers, from assisting the Emperor, under a specious Pretence of regarding their Mediation, and accepting a Plan of Accommodation, when it was not in reality their Intention. I say, supposing this to be the Case, and that they thus trifled in a Concern of the most solemn and serious Nature

ture, then GREAT BRITAIN and HOLLAND will be amply justified in their past Neutrality; and the criminal Conduct of FRANCE and her Allies, in acting with so much Baseness and Disingenuity, as during this Treaty, never to intend Peace on any reasonable Terms, will become evident and notorious. I hope to give a moral Proof of the Truth of each.

That FRANCE and her Allies, made the Maritime Powers believe they would accept a Plan of Accommodation, in order to prevent the farther Progress of War, evidently appears from the Declarations of that Court, as well as from the Thing itself; it being absurd to imagine, the Mediators would have offered any Plan, unless some Encouragement was given, of its Acceptance, in Part, or at least as a *Basis* for a general Treaty. That such Plan was prepared by the Maritime Powers, and presented to the allied Crowns, no one disputes; that the same was esteemed reasonable by the Mediators, and yet most scornfully rejected, has been before obser'd; and both which, yet more fully appears, by the Memorial of his Excellency Mr. WALPOLE at the Hague, and the States General Resolution thereon.

His Excellency observes, " That there was
 " Room to hope, this Plan would have had
 " the desired Effect; but contrary to the reasonable
 " Expectation of his Majesty and their High
 " Mightinesses, and after a Delay of more than two
 " Months, in a Crisis the most delicate that could
 " be, it has been absolutely rejected by the three
 " allied Crowns; and the Armistice proposed at
 " the same Time, and upon which the Maritime
 " Powers in a particular Manner insisted, was
 " loaded with Restrictions and Difficulties of such
 I " long:

" Long Discussion, that no Hopes could be conceived of regulating it in Time, to prevent the Operations of *this Campaign.*"

The first Resolution of the States on occasion of this Memorial was, " That there is no room at present to be satisfied with the Powers at War, seeing after a *considerable Time lost,* they thought proper to *reject* the Plan of Accommodation, the Conditions of which appeared very reasonable."

From whence it is plain and evident, that the Maritime Powers were encouraged by the allied Crowns, to believe they would accept so reasonable a Plan as might have ended in Peace, and they no less intimate, that they had been imposed on by a strange Delay of Time, and that otherwise they should have taken different Measures, and prevented the Operations of *this Campaign.*

And yet that the allied Crowns were not in earnest to accept of the Mediators good Offices to effect a Peace, most certainly appears from their rejecting every Article of the proposed Plan; because they well knew, that had they approved of Part, it would have afforded sufficient Grounds for agreeing to a Congress, and in the mean Time a Suspension of Arms, which were Points they sought carefully to avoid. No, their Design was only to raise in us and the Dutch an Expectation of one or both, till such Time as the Season of the Year was past, for us to assist the Emperor, and that in the Interim they might attack him with the greater Advantage. But surely such an Instance of T—y, ought never to be forgot by the Maritime Powers, but should rather inspire them to a Resentment equal to such Treatment, in so evidently making D—s of both Nations. And their so peremptorily refusing

fusing the Mediation of ENGLAND and HOLLAND, to procure a Peace without more Bloodshed, is no less than a tacit Declaration, that the Empire, and universal Conquest, are their latent and concealed Views.

I think then from a conjectural, perhaps, a true and solid Way of Reasoning, it is fully demonstrated that his Majesty's Conduct in this important Concern, has been as prudent as the Circumstances and Necessity of Affairs and Things would admit of; and should it be Fact, that we have been deceived by FRANCE and her Allies, it is *their fault*, but *not ours*, unless we permit them to do it *again*; which I hope will be prevented by our entering into a War, for the Reasons given.

But if after what has been suggested, why a War was not sooner prudent or expedient, any should still think it a great Omission that we did not more early engage therein, yet that Objection, if a true one, can never be a good Reason why we must not do it now. For is a Mistake ever rectified by a Perseverance in the same Measures? Surely not; no more than it ought to insinuate, that it would be *just* to reflect on those who committed the Error, if it was one; because no Man, or Number of Men, is in this State exempted from human Frailty, but are all liable to be deceived and mistaken, and which Great Minds are never ashamed to acknowledge. Our immortal WILLIAM, whose Wisdom and Knowledge in Politicks, as well as Valour and great Courage, all EUROPE experienced, yet that Great Prince, in a Speech on one of the most solemn Occasions, History can afford, did generously confess, that he had been mistaken; I mean at the *Hague Congress*, when the Grand Alliance against FRANCE

was formed. And as the whole Speech is worthy Attention, our present Circumstances being equally dangerous, I beg leave to transcribe it. His Majesty thus addressed himself to that Illustrious Assembly.

“ That the imminent Dangers wherein they
 “ found themselves, sufficiently discovered the
 “ Errors that had been committed ; so that he
 “ needed not use many Arguments, to shew
 “ them the Necessity of taking *juster* and *better*
 “ Measures ; that in the Circumstances they were
 “ in, it was not a Time to deliberate, but Act.
 “ That the Enemies were Masters of all the chief
 “ Fortressles, that were the Barrier of the Com-
 “ mon Liberty ; and that he would quickly pos-
 “ sess himself of all the rest, if a Spirit of Divi-
 “ sion, Slowness, and particular Interest con-
 “ tinued among them : That every one ought to re-
 “ main persuaded, that their respective particular
 “ Interests were comprized in the general one :
 “ That the Enemies Forces were very strong, and
 “ that they would carry Things like a Torrent
 “ before them : That it was in vain to oppose
 “ Complaints, and fruitless Clamours, or unpro-
 “ fitable Protestations against Unjustice : That it
 “ was neither the Resolution of a barren Dyet,
 “ nor the Hopes of some Men of Fortune, (ari-
 “ sing from frivolous Foundations) but Soldiers,
 “ strong Armies, and a prompt and sincere Union,
 “ between all the Forces of the Allies, that must
 “ do the Work ; and that these too must be
 “ brought to oppose the Enemy without De-
 “ lay, if they would put a stop to his Conquests,
 “ and snatch out of his Hands the Liberty of
 “ EUROPE, which he held already under a heavy
 “ Yoke.”

And

And if in the Year 1690. it was judged *absolutely necessary*, for so many Princes and States as appeared at this Congress, to associate together, and confederate in a Grand Alliance against FRANCE, for the Preservation of the EUROPEAN Liberties, how much *greater Reason* does the present Circumstances of Affairs suggest, for another *solemn Alliance*, if possible, more potent and extensive.

However, should the Court of GREAT BRITAIN in the present Situation, after such Demonstrations of Danger from the formidable Power of the House of BOURBON, ‘ Enter into no Measures of Defence with any neighbouring States and Princes; take no Steps to prevent the Mischief threatned; who would not (as a very eminent Author truly observed on Occasion of the Alliance between the Emperor and SPAIN, recent in our Memory,) rise up and demand an Account of such Conduct from those who alone are to answer for it? who would not join in saying, “ Is this the Usage fit to be given to a brave and considering People? Is this the Watchfulness of those, whose Duty it is to attend every distant View of Danger? Or, do they think so meanly of us, and the whole Nation, that we can see nothing but what we feel; and that we have a Sense of no Evil but what is present; or, that we are so made, that a little Expence would affright us from preserving our All; Or, reduced to so low a Condition of Poverty, that we can’t purchase or furnish out even Self-Defence to our selves? Were not other Princes and States threatned by the same Danger, and ready to unite with us? Must our Fleet, the Glory (as it is called) of this Land, lie still and decay, rather than be made

" made our Bulwark ? Our Fleet falsly call'd our
 " Glory, but indeed our Shame, whilst it is laid
 " aside as useless, at a Time when *that* alone
 " might make us look too formidable in EUROPE,
 " to be insulted or affronted ? Or, does even this
 " Expence which circulates chiefly among our-
 " selves, appear too formidable to a *Nation*,
 " which those around it *envy*, as the Centre of
 " Riches and Plenty ? But why do we speak of
 " Expence ? It is this Method of *Indolence*
 " and *Inactivity* upon such an Occasion, which
 " must bring after it an Expence much greater in
 " itself, and much more hazardous in its Effect, as
 " Time shall add Strength to the Danger threat-
 " ned : An Expence, which must increase our Debt,
 " and at the same Time diminish the Hopes of
 " paying it. What Account can we give of
 " such a Treatment of this Nation ? As we can
 " find none in all the known Measures of *Poli-*
 " *tical Prudence*, we must search for it some
 " where else. — There must be *secret Reasons*
 " for such a Conduct ; and perhaps these may
 " lie in the *Riches of Spain*, suffered to come
 " safely home, to strengthen and consolidate the
 " most dangerous *Conjunction*, that ever yet ap-
 " peared in EUROPE." ' This and much more
 " might justly be urged, upon the Supposition of
 " a negligent and *unactive* Conduct in this *Crisis*
 " of Danger ; and what Reply to make to it, I
 " profess I think it utterly impossible to tell.' *

If then it was necessary to arm the Nation,
 with such moving and powerful Arguments, to
 defend themselves against the Danger that might
 have accrued from that Alliance, as undoubtedly
 it was, it becomes no less *politically prudent* to
 do it at this Time, against Alliances and Schemes

* *Enquiry into the Conduct of Great Britain*, p. 110.

of more fatal Tendency to the Liberties, not of GREAT BRITAIN only, but of all EUROPE ; and the Reasons given by that great Author, to animate our Resolutions then, are equally strong and convincing now ; and ought no less to be deemed sufficient to obviate the Difficulties, that some may pretend and urge as to the Expence, and our present Incapacity to engage in a War ; Reasons which I apprehend are so clear and solid, as to render it needless for me to enlarge on that Head ; since our Fleet is as powerful, our Kingdom as rich, our Cause as just, and the Inclinations of the People for a War, more hearty and unanimous, than at that *less critical* Period of Time.

Thus I have, by a *various* Notoriety of *Facts*, maintained the *Truth* of my Argument to the Satisfaction I hope of every impartial Person, at least such as are *true Israelites* indeed, and not pretended Patriots. What remains, but that we in Time improve the Hints given of the present enterprizing dangerous Views of the House of BOURBON, and, if possible, *preserve the Balance of Power in EUROPE, before it is lost beyond Remedy*. The Emperor in the aforementioned Memorial, most solemnly assures us, " That " the Preservation of this Balance is the only Object of all his Wishes, of all his Applications, " and of all the extraordinary Efforts he makes " to prevent; if possible, his succumbing under a " Weight, which for nine Months past he has " born in a Manner singular and alone." And most certainly We and HOLLAND, are as highly concerned therein as the Emperor.

It is the Observation of that eminent Statesman PUFENDORF, who was perfectly Master of the true Interest of Kingdoms, That " the *chiefest*

" chiefest Interest of ENGLAND was to keep up
 " the Balance betwixt FRANCE and SPAIN, and
 " to take special Care, that the King of FRANCE
 " does not become Master of all the Netherlands;
 " for it is visible that thereby his Power at Sea
 " would be encreased to that Degree, that he
 " might enter on a Design fatal to ENGLAND."
 That the HOLLANDERS " ought to stand in great
 " fear of FRANCE on the Land Side, especially,
 " since that King is their great Enemy, having op-
 " posed for a considerable Time all their Designs.
 " That, they must endeavour the Preservation of
 " the SPANISH NETHERLANDS, which they ought
 " to consider as their Frontier, and such a Frontier,
 " as obliges SPAIN always to side with HOLLAND
 " against FRANCE." He observes of GERMANY,
 " That FRANCE alone may do more Mischief to
 " the GERMANS, than any of the rest of their
 " Neighbours; tho' it is not easily to be suppo-
 " sed, that if FRANCE should attack GERMANY
 " in good Earnest, all the rest of EUROPE would be
 " Lookers-on: But if GERMANY be divided within
 " itself, so that either one Party should join with
 " FRANCE, or that the rest should stand Neuters till
 " FRANCE has devoured the neighbouring States,
 " then nothing but fatal Consequences can attend it."

The Interest of ENGLAND, HOLLAND, and
 GERMANY, as to FRANCE, is here so fully described,
 and exactly parallel to our present Case, that it
 needs no Comment; it ought only to be remark-
 ed, that when PUFENDORF wrote, SPAIN
 was not in the House of BOURBON, so that
 SPAIN's Interest is now to side with FRANCE,
 and not with HOLLAND.

Let then the aforesaid Considerations and most
 certain Truths prevail with us to have a *watchful*
 Eye on the declared Enemies to our Peace and
 Tran-

Tranquility, our Liberty and Religion, whether their Attempts to annoy us be at a distance and remote, or at Hand and nearer at home, since it plainly appears, that if the Emperor is once subdued, our *Ruin*, tho' a little postponed, is no less certain and inevitable. Let the Zeal of FRANCE to enslave Mankind, emulate ours to interpose, and in *Time* preserve our own Liberties, and those of our Allies. Let Party Divisions cease and disappear among us, that with one Heart and Mind we may unite to defend those essential Privileges, which are the Glory of Princes, and the Happiness of Subjects to enjoy, from the combin'd Power of such arbitrary and despotic Kings, as take Delight in the Misery of others, and make it their chief Pleasure and Ambition, to tyrannize, enslave, and oppress, 'and if possible, to extinguish in Man, those natural Principles of Self-Preservation and Love of Liberty, which God in his Creation implanted in him. Let us resume our native Martial Courage, and with a true BRITISH Spirit exert ourselves, and bid Defiance to such as would reduce many Kings and Princes of the Earth to a State of Dependency, and oblige Nobles and Subjects to become Vassals and abject Slaves, to the imperious absolute Dictates of their merciless Will and unlimited Power. Let the Patriotism of our Nobles and Senators appear, by turning their resenting Protests and eloquent Speeches towards a suspected (*and it may be after all, a wise and virtuous*) Ministry, into vigorous Resolutions more worthy their Regard and Notice ; to meditate Satisfaction for Attempts of a more certain fatal Tendency, both to themselves and all EUROPE ; to resent the Indignity offered by some Potentates, to the BRITISH Crown and Nation, in

their so absolutely rejecting a Plan, that all the Powers of EUROPE approved of, as a proper *Basis* for a general Treaty of Peace; except those haughty imperious Monarchs, whose voracious Thirst after Power, cannot be satisfied with any Advantage less than the Enjoyment of Universal Empire, and an uncontrouled Dominion. Let these indisputable Points, these momentous Considerations, so important to us and our Allies, bear Sway in the Hearts of all our Nobles, Gentry, and Commonalty, of our Bishops and Clergy, of all Degrees and Orders of Men, all Denominations of Christians among us; nay, our Deists and Infidels will find it their Interest to join with us, against the encroaching Power of the BOURBON Family, which, without Restraint, will be as fatal to the Freedom of the Mind, as the Rights and Properties of Mankind. And let the Words of that wise and judicious Prince, our glorious Deliverer, who was a perfect Judge of the true Interest of EUROPE, remain fixed in our Minds, “*That there ought to be no other Distinction among us, but of those, who are for the Protestant Religion, and the present Establishment, and of those who mean a Popish Prince and a FRENCH Government.*” Then shall we be a Match for those who envy our Felicity, and seek our Destruction: Then may we think to escape the Scourge we too much deserve, and which our antient Ally does most wofully experience: Then may we hope to be delivered from that Power which so exalts itself Abroad, and lies in wait to enslave us at Home: Then shall we act a consistent Part, to our selves, our Allies, and the Reformation; and then will our Enemies fear, honour, and reverence us.

From what has been said, the Conclusion is both easy and natural ; that *All* who are zealously attached to the Interest of his present Majesty, and the Succession of the Crown in his Royal Family ; *All* who are sincerely concerned for the Liberties of EUROPE in general, and those of GREAT BRITAIN in particular ; *All* who wish well to the Trade and Commerce of this Kingdom, and would have it flourish and encrease ; *All* who are in fact, real and sincere Protestants, and not so in Profession only, and would have a Protestant Prince to sway the Sceptre of this Protestant Kingdom, must and will conspire in one general Sentiment, that the exorbitant Power of the House of BOURBON wants Restraint, as much as the Emperor requires immediate Assistance, to withstand the Attempts of his Enemies, who seem to have concerted, and probably will effect his Expulsion from the Imperial Dignity, to make room for a BOURBON, or at least one who will abet and countenance the ambitious and enterprising Genius of that aspiring Family, to obtain Universal Monarchy. And since the Enemy is vigilant and successful, and perhaps not so distant and remote from GREAT BRITAIN and HOLLAND, as some would insinuate, and have believed, let it animate in us all, a true Zeal to preserve our own LIBERTIES, and those of EUROPE.

POSTSCRIPT.

I AM sensible it is in Politicks, as in Religion, impossible for the Sentiments of one to be agreeable to all. The Difficulty of writing on so tender a Subject, was present to me, before I put Pen to Paper, yet I must confess it appeared not so discouraging till after I had made some Progress therein. However, apprehending it might be of Use at this Juncture, to refresh, if not inform, the Minds of our Commonalty, of the past and present dangerous Views and Attempts of the BOURBON Family and FRENCH Nation; all the *Expectation* of being censured, reproached, and slandered, could not deter me from offering my Mite in favour of Universal Liberty, our Trade and Commerce, our Religion as Protestants, our Properties as ENGLISHMEN, against the combined Projects of our antient and most certain Enemies; and if in so laudable but difficult an Enterprize, Excess of Affection towards the Honour, Power, and Dignity, of a *British Monarch*, the Rights and peculiar Glory, of *British Subjects*, has inadvertently drawn from me any Expression, that savours of Asperity in Stile, I hope my Zeal and true REGARD, for Points so essential, and of such inestimable Concern to this Nation, will entitle me to an indulgent Pardon from all *true BRITONS*; as also for any involuntary Slip or Mistake that I may have been guilty of.

Some perhaps, without considering, will say, that I have not observed a proper Decency of Expression towards the crowned Heads of FRANCE and SPAIN; my Answer is, that every Epithet

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made use of, is taken either from their espoused Principles, or common Practices ; from Facts they cannot deny, or which the Universe bears Testimony to the Truth of. If then I have produced Instances that demonstrably prove their Treachery, Insincerity, and Ambition, to possess absolute and universal Empire, do not their Actions in such Facts justify me, in charging them with being treacherous, insincere, and ambitious ?

Again, if their Conduct to us, HOLLAND, and other Powers, has been haughty and imperious, as I think sufficiently appears in the foregoing Discourse ; if a *Minister of FRANCE* shall dare to say, the most wise and prudent Conduct of our King in sending a Fleet to LISBON, was *rash* and *inconsiderate* ; if the Court of SPAIN, shall presume to take the same Liberties of censuring our Measures, in order to render despicable the present Administration, may not a *true BRITON*, writing in Defence of his King and Country, call such Treatment haughty and imperious, insolent and domineering ; and it may be hoped these modern Instances of the Pride and Elation of the BOURBON Family, will have a Tendency to convince all of their ambitious Views, and to determine other Powers no longer to connive at their gradual progressive Steps, towards attaining their perpetrated Ends ; for which Reason every one ought to have sufficient Notice, that they may join as one Man, to oppose such fatal Attempts, which in a full Accomplishment, will be found dreadful and intolerable to all.

Others may insinuate, that I have excited the Nation to a War, against such Powers as his Majesty neither has, nor may think proper to declare War. To this I reply, If that should be the Case, my Design in publishing this will thereby be answered ;

swered ; because I no way question but if his Majesty should in his great Wisdom judge it improper to enter into a War, that yet the same or equal Advantages for the Emperor, for our Merchants trading to the *West Indies*, and for their Losses already sustained from SPAIN, will, thro' his mediating good Offices, be obtained by a Treaty, and the Balance of Power in EUROPE effectually secured, and then the present Reasons for a War will cease. But should his Majesty find it necessary to engage in a War, then such a Resolution, will, from what has been offer'd, be fully vindicated, to the Satisfaction, I hope, of all Persons of good Judgment and true Discernment, as well as his Majesty's past Conduct, in not doing it sooner.

But it may be urged, that the Strength of this last Argument depends solely on the Measures his Majesty shall think proper to take, and which resolves it into his Majesty's Will. To this I answer as before, that as his Majesty is best appriz'd of the private Situation of Foreign Affairs, knows minutely and exactly the Designs and Intrigues of other Princes, (by the Help of such Intelligence as private Persons are destitute of) he must of Course have a superior Degree of Knowledge, whereby to direct his Will, and of Consequence be the most perfect Judge of such Concerns.

And that his Will, Inclination, and Interest, are equally engaged to defend us against the encroaching Power of FRANCE, is apparent from this one undeniable Reason, and most authentic Argument, that the Preservation of the BRITISH Crown to his Majesty, and the transmitting of it to the Branches of his Royal House, solely depend on this Maxim, That GREAT BRITAIN, the EMPEROR, the States of HOLLAND, and the Protestant Religion, should at all Times be effectually secured

secured from the combin'd Power, and exorbitant Encroachments of the **BOURBON Race**, in regard no other Expedients can possibly prevent their succeeding in the Pursuit of Universal Monarchy. So that in fact, the true Interest of his Majesty and his Subjects, of the **EMPEROR** and States of **HOLLAND**, are one and the same, being reciprocal, mutual, and interwoven with each other; and can we suppose his Majesty will be remiss and negligent in consulting, contriving, and resolving on such Measures as will tend to secure to himself a Concern so near and natural as the Possessions of the **BRITISH Crown**, and the Entail there-of to his own Blood? Or, that he will employ any under him but such, whose Principles and Actions have always been, not only consistent, but ever dedicated to the same important Views?

Let then no one question, but that as the **FRENCH King** aims at being the Head of the *Romish Perswasion*, so our **BRITISH Princes**, who are Defenders of the true Christian Faith, will, so long as they are Protestants, always think it their Honour and Glory to patronize and support the Protestant Cause. From a constant Regard to a Maxim so necessary and essential, Queen **ELIZABETH** became a powerful and glorious Princess; and in the Infancy of the Reformation she was the great Patroness of the Reformed, in **SCOTLAND**, **FRANCE**, and the **NETHERLANDS**, even against Sovereign Princes and powerful Enemies, by which her Memory is sacred to all true Protestants. And as his Majesty has not so many Difficulties to encounter, and that the Protestant Interest is more considerable now, than in her Time, we may reasonable hope, that since his Majesty both professes and espouses the same Principles, so his pious Endeavours to establish and secure

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the Protestant Religion, and the Liberty of Nations, will be attended with the like Success, whereby his Name will be render'd equally dear to the present Age, and the most distant Posterity.

To conclude in the Words of one who wrote in the Reign of King CHARLES II. " Thus upon the Whole, considering FRANCE is furnished with a King " not wanting high Thoughts or Activity, less " cannot be expected from him, than to Design " an Universal Monarchy, which consequently " makes it the common Interest of all EUROPEAN " Princes and Satets (as they value their own " Safety) to unite, for the keeping him within " Bounds and Limits." Especially, as the Kingdom of SPAIN that formerly was a Check to restrain the Excessence of FRENCH Power, is now united with FRANCE, and engaged by the Ties of Blood and other political Views, to enslave Mankind it is to be feared, and then divide among themselves the Rights and Dominions of all other Princes.

E R R A T A.

PAGE 7. line 27. read Council. p. 9. line 26. before such, read also. p. 35. line 29. dele of the House. p. 49. line 24. read 1571. p. 56. line 27. for, after all, read that.



